



COMMENT OF
THE DAY

SEATO Justified

The eight signatories to the Manila Pact meeting in Bangkok today succeed in carrying out their chief task, which has up to now been merely a name—the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation—will become a reality. The significance of this must not be lost, for SEATO will represent the biggest effort yet made to create a united defensive front against Communist military expansion in Asia, in magnitude it does not approach the solidarity and massive defensive strength of NATO, but it is based on the principles and aims of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and as such wins a unique position in contemporary political history.

One feature of the Manila Treaty (which constitutes the charter for the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation) is the five principles which the pact enunciates. And they are particularly interesting because Mr Chou En-lai has laid down similar principles which he says should govern Asian relations. Here they are: recognition of national sovereignty and territorial integrity; mutual non-aggression; non-interference in internal affairs; equality and mutual benefit; peaceful co-existence.

ON this basis is the machinery for activating SEATO to be created, and it is not easy to conceive how any serious objections, more or less active opposition, to those principles can be advanced. When makes it all the more unfortunate that freedom-loving Asiatic nations are divided on the merits and desirability of a Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation. Pakistan, Thailand and the Philippines are for; India, Burma, Colombo and Indonesia against. Yet all profess a common desire to have Asia safeguarded by the five fundamental principles laid down in the Manila Treaty.

The apparent contradiction is explained by a divergence in honest beliefs. The Manila Treaty powers are convinced that, as in Europe, the Communist policy of aggression in Asia can now only be restrained by an unmistakable display of united defensive strength. India and Burma, in particular, consider any such organised defensive line-up an irritant, and that it will make no useful impression on the Communists.

BECAUSE the viewpoints are fundamental they are seemingly irreconcilable within an organisation of the nature of SEATO. India and Burma claim that their policies of neutralism are more likely to produce positive and valuable results for world peace. Unfortunately the bigger powers, such as the United States, Britain and France cannot afford to indulge in neutralism. They are constantly being challenged by the Communists over international problems. Russia has consistently refused to make any concessions on issues which vitally affect the peace of the world. Neutralism in their case would be tantamount to surrender.

Militant Communism has already advanced far enough in Southeast Asia. It makes no attempt to hide its menacing intentions. And this is the justification for the creation and maintenance of SEATO. Because of its defensive nature it can interfere only those who possess aggressive designs. As an alliance it suffers the imperfections of incompleteness, but few will deny that it can serve the very valuable purposes, firstly of discouraging aggression, and secondly of resisting aggression should it be attempted.

'No Response To Soviet Peace Moves' BLUNT WARNING BY ZHUKOV

'Russia Ready To Hit Back If Attacked' RED ARMY DAY TV SPEECH

Moscow, Feb. 22.

The Soviet Defence Minister, Marshal Georgi Zhukov, told a Russian audience tonight the USSR's "peaceful policy" had evoked no "favourable echoes" in the West and warned that Russia was ready to retaliate against any attack.

Making his first TV speech on the eve of Red Army Day, Marshal Zhukov was flanked on his right by the new Prime Minister, Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, and by the Communist Party Secretary, Mr Nikita Khrushchev.

Then came the first Deputy Defence Minister, Marshal Alexander Vasilevsky, and the Army Chief of Staff, Marshal Vassili Sokolovsky.

Marshal Zhukov underlined Russia's peaceful intentions first.

"The peaceful policy of the USSR has not raised any favourable echoes on the part of the capitalist countries," he said, "notably the United States which is carrying out a policy of preparation for war and propaganda."

He added: "We are ready to reply to all attacks. Those who

do not take the lessons of history into account, like Hitler, who attempted to adopt a position of force against the USSR, should remember his fate."

"Permit me to assure the Central Committee of the Party and our Soviet Government that all the soldiers and sailors of the USSR recognise their high responsibilities and will continue to reinforce the power of the armed forces of our homeland," he said.

More than 2,000 general officers, soldiers and their wives heard Marshal Zhukov speak.



Marshal Zhukov

Standing, the audience sang the Soviet national anthem. A concert given by Moscow's top artists followed.—United Press.

China's Message

London, Feb. 22.

The Communist Chinese leaders in a message of greeting to the Soviet leaders on the eve of the 27th anniversary of Soviet Army Day said the "mighty and steel" Soviet army was "an unconquerable force for world peace". The message said that during the Second World War the "glorious Soviet Army" destroyed the fascist forces, saved European and world civilisation and made an invaluable contribution to the cause of human progress.

In the past five years the Soviet armed forces in the novel base of Per Arthur had played a vital role in preserving peace and security in the Far East and the world, the message said.

They had offered substantial support for the Socialist construction of the Chinese people.

"We on behalf of the Chinese People's Republic wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the Government of the Soviet Union and their armed forces."

The message was sent by Mao Tse-tung, China's Chairman, Liu Shao-chi, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the People's National Congress and Chou En-lai, Chinese Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.—Reuter.

500 Passengers, Crew Inoculated

Typhoid Scare On Ship From Hongkong

Capetown, Feb. 22.

Two doctors worked for 3½ hours today to inoculate the 500 passengers and crew of the 14,385-ton steamship East Africa, which arrived here after a voyage from Hongkong. The children, Karin and her brother, Samuel, aged 5, from Hongkong were taken to hospital at Cape Town. The ship left for Port Elizabeth after the inoculation.

The ship bound for Durban was still in port.

East London but when the two children were found to have typhoid, the master decided to put into port.

Mr and Mrs Chu Shen-wen, parents of the two children, are on their way to Hongkong from Hongkong. They continued their voyage in the Rangoon.

Karin and Samuel will stay in the hospital. Karin is a 10-year-old girl and Samuel is a 5-year-old boy. They were both inoculated with typhoid vaccine.

To Break Exile?



King Freddie May Ask To Go Home

Whitehall's Thorny Problem

London, Feb. 22.

Will King Freddie, the Kabaka of Buganda, be allowed to break his exile in London to visit his four-year-old daughter who is suffering from polio in East Africa?

According to the Colonial Office which gave the all-clear, the first move must lie with the Kabaka. He is the one to make the suggestion that he should return to Uganda temporarily to see his daughter.

But last night King Freddie's secretary, speaking from the Kabaka's London flat, said: "The Kabaka is naturally very distressed about this and would, of course, wish to travel to Uganda. He is aware, however, the Government does not wish him to return at the moment. In order, therefore, to avoid embarrassment, he has so far refrained from making any approach."

It is expected the Kabaka will ask for permission to fly to his daughter. If so the British Government will be placed in an embarrassing position. It is felt his temporary presence in Uganda at the present time would aggravate local feeling.

At the same time, a point-blank refusal by the Government would doubtless lead to a storm of protest both in Britain and among the Kabaka's people.—London Express Service.

New Plan For Protection From A-Blast

Washington, Feb. 22.

The Army disclosed tonight that casualties from the heat of an atomic explosion may be cut by as much as 75 per cent by laying smoke-screens over target cities.

Thermal radiation equal to the heat of thousands of suns severely burned 34,000 people when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima during World War II.

Announcing the major advance in atomic defence, which will get a full scale test in the current atomic weapons series in Nevada, Maj. Gen. William M. Creech, Army Chief, Chemical Warfare Center, said experts were studying ways to cover target cities with smoke blankets in less than 15 minutes from the time they received warning of possible attack.

Illustrating the importance of atomic defence, thermal radiation from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima covered a 16-square-mile area compared with three square miles damaged by the blast.

Thermal radiation was the most serious danger to people in the immediate area of the blast. It was the heat of the atomic bomb which caused the most deaths and injuries.

Faure To Ask For Confidence Vote

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS 'VIRTUALLY OVER'

Paris, Feb. 22.

France's 20th post-war Cabinet crisis was virtually solved tonight after the latest Premier-designate, Radical leader M. Edgar Faure, informed the President of the Republic that he was prepared to complete his mission.

M. Faure told reporters immediately afterwards that he expected to finish his mission by midnight, but that whatever happened, he would be ready to go before the Assembly tomorrow morning.

M. Faure, who at the age of 48 has been a Cabinet Minister ten times, has put ratification of the Paris Agreements as the first item of his governmental programme.

A complete list of his Ministry will not be available until 7 p.m. read out by the Speaker of the National Assembly tomorrow.

NO DIFFICULTY

Falling last-minute snags, it was expected in political circles that M. Faure would have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary votes in the Assembly tomorrow.

The latest French Cabinet crisis enters its 18th day tomorrow. The Government constituted by M. Faure is a centre-right coalition, based on the participation of the popular Republicans (Radicals), the Radicals (M. Faure's own party), the Conservatives, including the Christian Democrats, and the Qualifiers.

It represents virtually all fractions of the chamber except the Communists, the Socialists and a few splinter groups. The turning point in this crisis came early today when

the Executive Committee of the Radical Party, after some hesitation, decided to support M. Faure's candidature. This decision represented a defeat for the partisans of M. Mendes-France inside the Radical Party. They were manoeuvring to bring about a similar coalition but headed by a Conservative.

NEW CONDITIONS?

Although M. Faure has put ratification of the Paris Agreements in the forefront of his programme, some doubts were expressed tonight in political quarters whether he would be able to get the Chamber of the Republic, upper house of the French Parliament, to vote ratification without any reservations or qualifications.

There is a movement, under way in the upper house to make the vote in favour of ratification conditional on the treaty not being applied in practice until further negotiations with the Russians about Germany and other problems have taken place.

This was the point of view expressed by M. Foleys, in the Senate on the Paris Agreements in the lower house of Parliament last December and his presence in the Government was thought to indicate that the view in favour of talking to the Russians first was gaining ground in France.—Reuter.

NEW NATIONALIST RETREAT LIKELY

Threat To Nanchi Reported

Washington, Feb. 22.

The Nationalist Government on Formosa may have to evacuate Nanchi Island, northernmost outpost of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, US military experts said today.

But it is not known whether America will urge the evacuation.

Military experts said other offshore islands held by the Nationalists near Formosa, such as Matsuo and Quemoy, were not immediately menaced by the Chinese Communists. They said they do not think Quemoy, defended by the biggest Nationalist force outside Formosa, was in danger for possibly as long as the rest of this year.

American experts also discounted as exaggerated Nationalist reports of heavy destruction of Communist "warships" and sinking of Communist submarines. Although there have been Nationalist reports of Communist submarines, no such reports have come from American sources.

The U.S. had asked the Nationalists to "check and double check" submarine reports.

OLD RUSSIAN SUBS?

Authorities said the Chinese Communists probably have a few old Russian submarines, but added that if any were sunk there would have been positive evidence in the form of debris and oil slick.

Two submarines have been reported sunk in four days, US military officials described the Communist "warships" reported sunk as "wood junks, large sailing vessels." They said a 400- to 500-ton vessel would be a big one and could not be a machine gun.

The Navy believes some of the big news reported in the Formosa area and in the Pacific from time to time were exaggerated and were intended to be a part of a propaganda campaign.

Military sources said China was apparently "looking for" submarines, possibly in an attempt to "take over" and dispose of a few old Russian submarines.

Foster Dulles Says:

'SEATO No Threat To Anyone'

Bangkok Talks Open

Bangkok, Feb. 23.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, told the first session of the Southeast Asia Treaty Council today the treaty was not directed against anyone but was intended to safeguard "friendly and free peoples."

He told delegates from the seven other nations in the pact that the example set in the three-day meeting could help to "realise the aspiration... that in due course the shackles of captivity, injustice and arbitrary privilege shall be struck off and all men be free."

BASED ON LIBERTY

Mr. Dulles said American foreign policy was based on the idea of liberty for its own people and for others since "freedom cannot thrive in an environment hostile to freedom."

His first expression was in the Monroe Doctrine warning the "European despots" not to extend their system to the American hemisphere, which had now grown into the Rio Pact and the Organisation of American States.

His second expression was in relation to Asia, where American mission is to give the Philippines independence, which has been accomplished and where also had "taken the lead in ending the system by which foreign nations exercised extraterritorial rights in China."

Today it found expression in such areas as mutual security treaties with the free nations of the Western Pacific area, and in the North Atlantic Treaty and its various organs.

Today the United States comes to Southeast Asia. That is, geographically, something new to us. But we come under the compulsion of our historic principles and to fulfil them we will have an influence far beyond the treaty area.

"Our conduct and example can help to realise the aspiration expressed in the Charter of the United Nations and in our Pacific Charter that human opportunity shall not be restricted by geographic or by race or class or creed but that in due course the shackles of captivity, injustice and arbitrary privilege shall be struck off and that all men shall be free."—Reuter.

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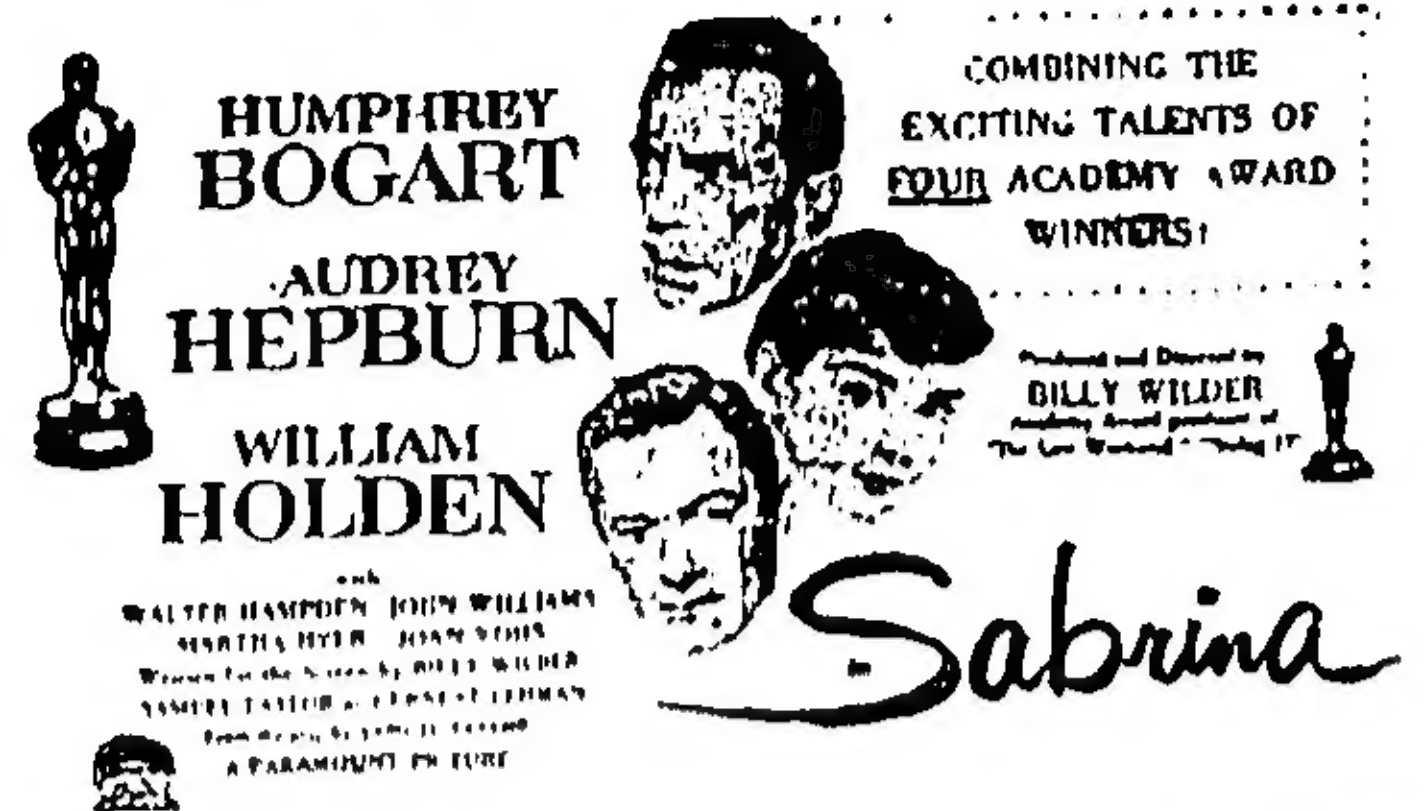
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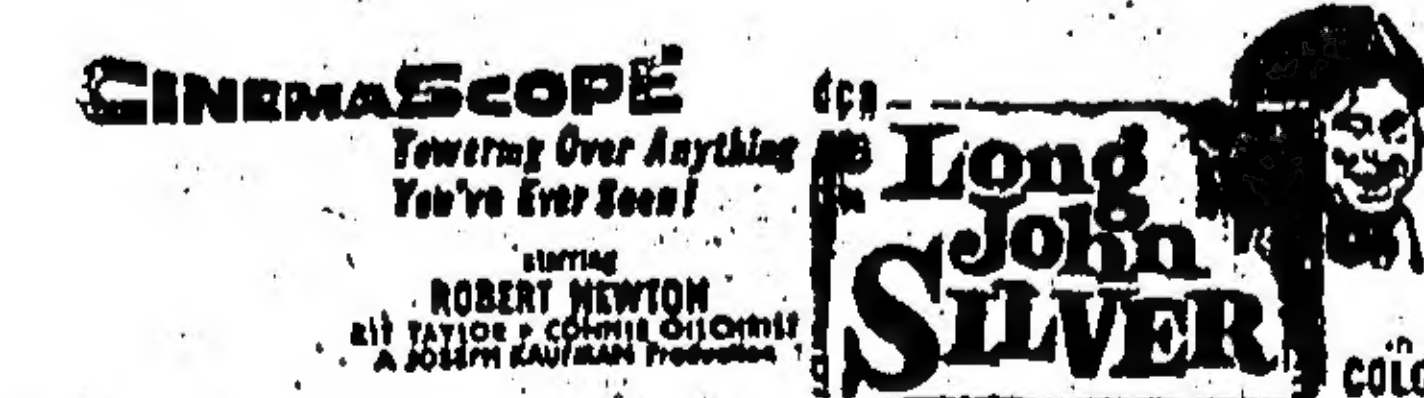
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JAPANESE RED PLAN

Political Offensive Beaten By Prime Minister

Tokyo, Feb. 22.

The Communist Party abandoned its plans for an all-out political offensive in the face of the snowballing strength of the Prime Minister, Mr. Ichiro Hatoyama.

With election day only six days away, Red leaders pulled out four of their 99 candidates for Lower House seats and instructed supporters to throw their votes to the left-wing Socialists.

This was a reversion to the Red tactics in the last elections two years ago when, their strength weakened by popular reaction against Red-led union violence, the Communists helped to push more than 140 left-wing candidates into the House of Representatives. Only one represented the Party.

The decision appeared to indicate a major retreat on the part of the Reds who had boldly announced only a month ago that their aim was to obtain at least as many seats as they had at their postwar peak strength—35 seats in 1948.

EFFECTIVE TACTICS

The switch in tactics underlined the effectiveness of the democratic Government's campaign strategy in calling for "normalisation" of relations with Russia and eventual recognition of Red China.

Indices so far are that Mr. Hatoyama's espousal of rapprochement with Moscow has neutralised gains which the Socialists had been expected to make. —United Press.

LINGERIE COLLECTOR

London, Feb. 22.

A 46-year-old foreman-superintendent admitted in court at Bedford, Sussex, today that for years he had been collecting women's undergarments.

He told the Magistrate that he took them off clothes lines in gardens in the neighbourhood.

At his home, police found drawers full of articles of lingerie each of which had been carefully entered in a note book.

Defendant, J. Haynes did not explain what use he made of the panties and brassieres.

The Court decided the thefts were due to a mental lapse. Haynes, who promised not to try to add to his dainty collection, was granted conditional liberty. —France-Press.

EUROPEAN DEFENCE ALTERED

Omaha, Feb. 22.

General Alfred Gruenther, NATO Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, stated here today that the strategic concepts for the defence of Europe had altered since the probable addition of Federal German troops to those of other Western Powers.

He made this statement on a stop-over at the military base here on his way to Bismarck in North Dakota.

Up to now, he said, NATO forces would have to hold the Rhine defence line. He added that "when we get the German contingent we will be able to defend what we call the forward strategy."

This would be, in the General's opinion, "a strong enough shield of German forces plus the use of our new weapons"—atomic artillery and guided missiles.

He did not specify the precise distance toward the East which would separate the Rhine and the position of this "forward strategy." —France-Press.

Tough Legal Questions

Paris, Feb. 22.

Can a convict who killed the executioner assigned to carry out his death sentence plead self-defence?

This is one of the questions chosen today for the annual examination debate for apprentice lawyers of Paris.

Another question selected for the debate, which is to be held on Thursday is: Can an adulterous woman make a complaint for legal action against a private detective hired by her husband to watch her, if this detective has committed adultery, if this detective made use of her as a partner to further his case, and if he moved in his report this single case of adultery upon which the husband's suit for divorce is based. —France-Press.

THE MORRISONS MEET FAIRBANKS



Mr. Douglas Fairbanks and Mrs. Morrison shaking hands with Mr. Douglas Fairbanks at the Dorchester Hotel in London. Occasion was Foy's Literary Luncheon in honour of Anglo-American friendship. —Central Press Photo.

Cheering Children Greet Princess Margaret

Mandeville, Jamaica, Feb. 22.

Princess Margaret was given one of the most enthusiastic receptions of her West Indian tour here today as a seething mass of children expressed its excitement with shrill shouts of "Ain't she sweet."

Grownups formed an outer cordon on Mandeville Square in this small parochial capital 2,200 feet up in the mountains as the Royal visitor arrived.

She wore a white silk dress with a red spot design and deep bateau neckline and a red straw hat.

To reach Mandeville — chief town of the Parish of Manchester—the Princess motored about 60 miles from Kingston, capital of Jamaica.

RICH FRUIT COUNTRY

The journey took her through rich fruit country — some of the welcoming archways were decorated with pineapples, oranges, bananas and grapefruit — and over twisting mountain roads.

Everywhere clusters of people stood at the roadside to greet the Princess.

A crowd of several thousand raced after her car when on her way to Mandeville she visited the Denbigh Agricultural Show — the island's biggest show ground. She planted a tree.

Some miles further on, she visited the Alumina Jamaica Limited plant.

When she alighted from her car outside the Mandeville courthouse the cheers from several thousands flag-waving children were almost deafening.

But these were outmatched when the Custos or Lord-Lieutenant of Manchester, the Honourable R. G. Williams, called for three cheers for the Princess who smilingly stood beside him on the balcony. —Reuter.

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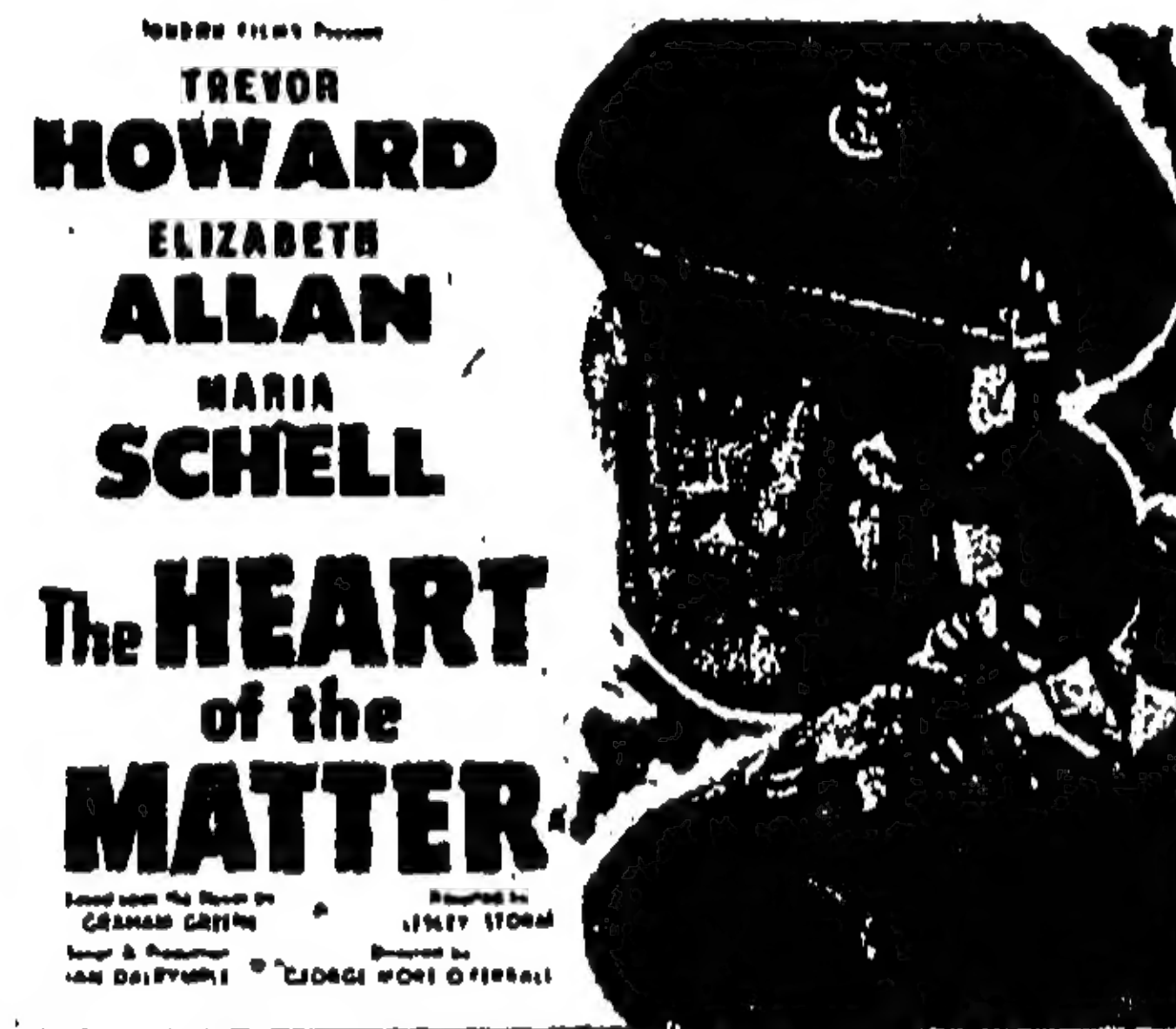
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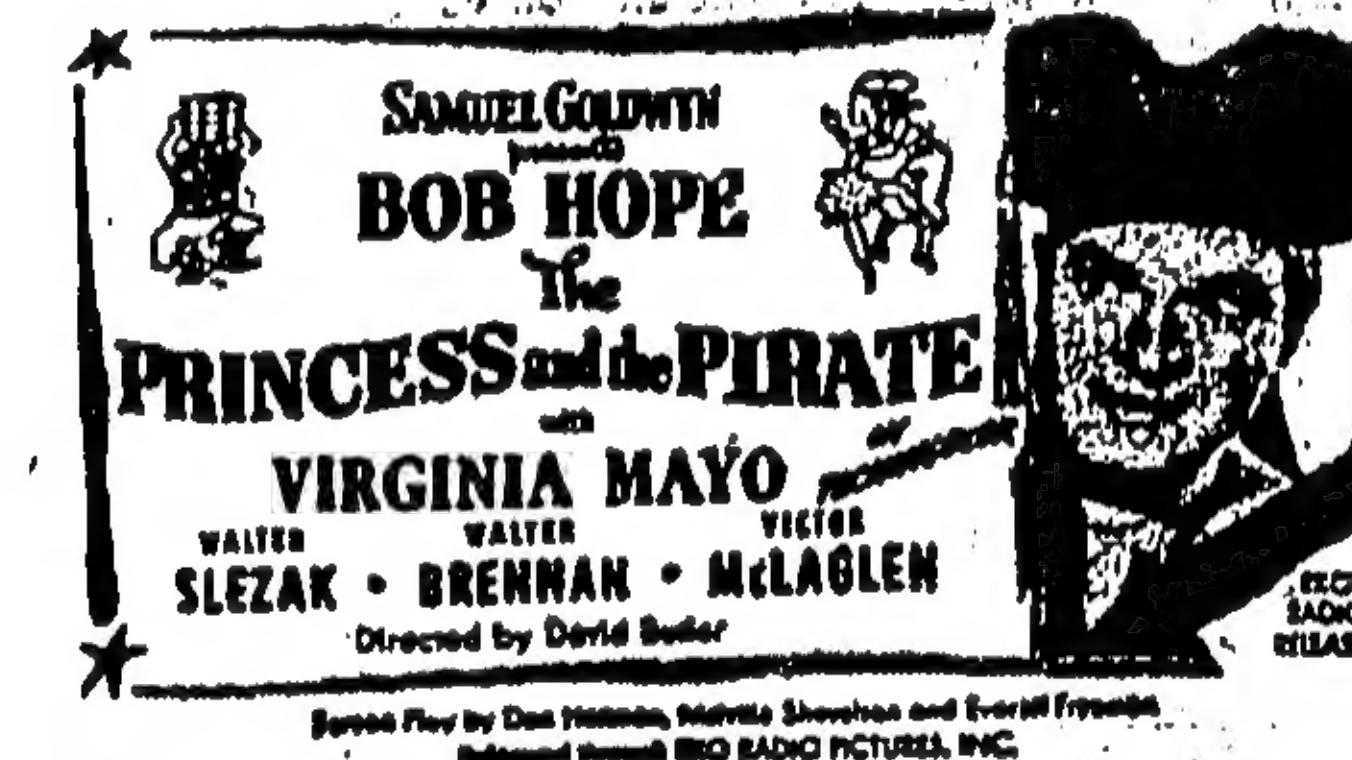
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WATER IS PARADISE

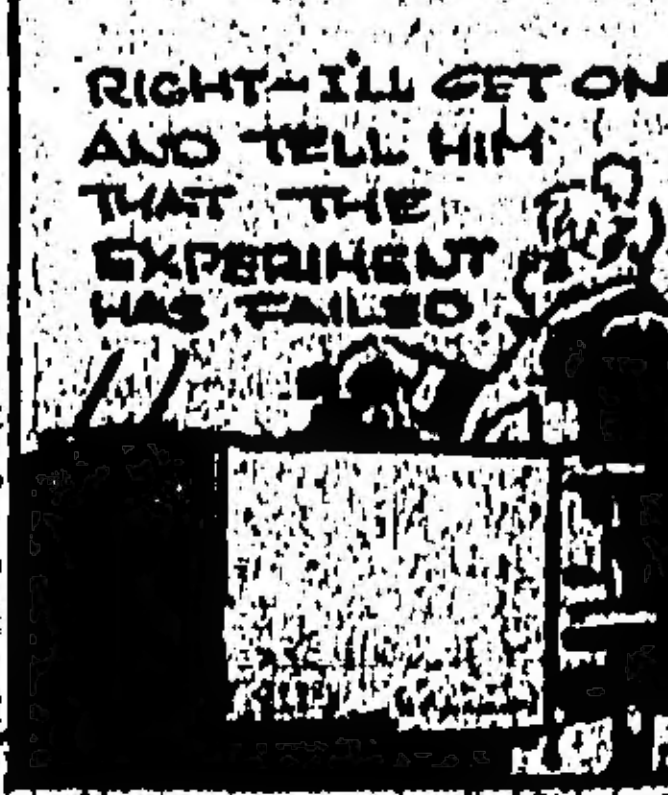
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NUCLEAR RADIATION EFFECTS

How To Influence Lions — Look Them In The Eye



MR. WINTHROP ALDRICH

BRILLIANT LONDON PARTY

London, Feb. 22. Queen Elizabeth and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, headed the list of 300 society guests at a housewarming which took place today at Winfield House, the new residence of US Ambassador to Britain Winthrop Aldrich.

The housewarming, which was regarded as the most brilliant reception of the winter social calendar here, was also attended by the Queen Mother, the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, and Lady Churchill and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

The guests arrived tonight with all the splendour of pre-war days as they drove through 12 acres of garden—the second largest property in London after Buckingham Palace.

The Royal family came last, and Queen Elizabeth ordered her carriage lit at the beginning of the driveway to show off her white ermine coat and a resplendent diadem.

Winfield House, situated in Regent's Park, was originally built in 1936 by film-maker Barbara Hutton. She offered it to the US Ambassador in London, who used it as his residence.

But Mr. Louis W. Douglas, predecessor to Mr. Aldrich from 1947 to 1950, did not find it appropriate. —France-Press.

Possibility That Life May Be Shortened A-MEDICAL EXPERT EXPRESSES VIEWS

Washington, Feb. 22. An atomic medical expert today raised the possibility that nuclear radiation's long-term effects may shorten man's life expectancy.

This "delayed effect" of radiation exposure had already been demonstrated in test animals, Dr. John C. Bugher told a Senate Armed Services Committee studying civil defence problems posed by the H-bomb.

Dr. Bugher is Director of the Biological and Medical Division of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Whether radiation would have the same effect on the life expectancy of humans "is as yet unknown," Dr. Bugher said.

EXTENSIVE AREA

Dr. Bugher presented to the Sub-Committee a highly technical medical explanation of the effects of atomic radiation. These potential dangers were emphasized by an AEC report last week that an H-bomb could spread lethal radio-activity over a very extensive area.

A "possible delayed effect" of radiation exposure which has been demonstrated in animals is a statistical shortening of life expectancy," Dr. Bugher said in a prepared statement.

"This phenomenon does not result from any specific cause of death but apparently from a general acceleration of the aging process. Whether this factor can be recognized in a human population is as yet unknown."

"For it to become a significant consequence of sub-lethal radiation exposure, it would seem necessary that all causes of death operating in earlier years would have to be sharply suppressed."

Dr. Bugher left unanswered the question of the effect of radiation upon hereditary characteristics.

The "genetic problem," he said, "is one of the fundamental aspects of the adjustment of man to the world of the future."

Dr. Bugher left unanswered the question of the effect of radiation upon hereditary characteristics.

Dr. Bugher said that there had been "reckless and uncritical pronouncements" about how radiation of germ cells will produce monsters and even the obliteration of mankind itself.

It was essential, he said, "that we keep our perspective in such matters and base our generalizations upon substantial evidence."

No "firm conclusions" could be drawn, he said, until a study had been completed of the genetic effects among the more highly irradiated survivors of the World War II atomic blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Two Democratic Senators on the Sub-Committee, Mr. Estes Kefauver, and Mr. Henry M. Jackson, had called for a stop-up in civil defence planning to meet the radiation threat posed by the H-bomb.

The AEC Commissioner, Mr. Willard F. Libby, assured the Sub-Committee that the danger of radio-active fall-out from the current atomic tests in Nevada proving grounds was "exceedingly remote."

Because of the meticulous precautions taken, Mr. Libby said, there was "very little probability of fall-out."

Mr. Libby said, however, that just as there was risk in making any explosive, there was a "certain small element of risk" involved in the tests. —United Press.

Whispering Atomic Blast

New York, Feb. 22. The Atomic Energy Commission today set off a "whispering" atomic blast

that a witnessing Senator indicated could be the model of a guided missile war-head for use against "invading forces."

The Senator, Mr. Russell Long, who has just returned from the 1955 nuclear test series from an official observation post 10 miles away, said after the blast it was a "baby A-bomb."

He said it enabled him and 10 other observing Congressmen to "foresee nuclear weapons launched from either the ground or aircraft against invading forces, yet small enough to minimize danger to our own people."

The Congressional party witnessed the explosion from the concrete control-point block-house inside the Nevada proving grounds and were briefed thoroughly by the AEC on what was happening before, during and after the explosion.

The use of the word "launched" by the Senator in an official post-blast statement indicated that the device could have tipped the nose of any of the guided missiles known to be in the United States arsenal.

ground-to-ground, ground-to-air, air-to-ground, or air-to-air.

The blast spread a panoramic "flash-bomb" light across an 800-mile area and was unofficially estimated to be the equivalent of some 13,000 tons of TNT—actually in the medium-size range for Nevada firings.

Last Friday's first test of the series was a so-called "baby A-bomb" with an estimated "yield" of somewhere between 5,000 and 10,000 tons.

The Nagasaki and Hiroshima weapons, by comparison, were rated at about 20,000 tons.

Strangely, today's blast gave forth none of the noise level of previous detonations of that intensity. It was heard, not at all at this vantage point of Angora Peak, 8,000 feet above the desert and 48 miles from the Yucca Flat detonation site.

Unofficial observers dubbed it a "whispering" bomb when only a few rumbles were heard in Las Vegas, 75 miles away, when the blast was heard in Salt Lake City, 100 miles away.

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The Shah of Persia and his lovely Queen Soraya arrive at Southampton from the United States in the liner Queen Mary for a week's private visit. They were greeted on arrival at Waterloo Station in London by the Duke of Gloucester. — Express Photo.

SQUIRREL WAS ERMINE

London, Feb. 22.

A pure ermine fur coat for £20 was the bargain found in a London fashion shop by a young British actress, Hazel Lawrence.

A week later, the salesgirl realised the true value of the coat which she had sold to Miss Lawrence in mistake for squirrel.

She rushed to Miss Lawrence, who would not part with her find. Finally, the matter was settled today when the young actress paid the purchase price of £115 to the shop. —France-Press.

SOLDIERS BLAME LIQUOR FOR CRIME

Tokyo, Feb. 22.

Two Dutch soldiers being tried in a Japanese court on charges of assault and robbery today blamed liquor for their present state.

Cpl. Antoine Hendrikus Van der Bol and Cpl. Antonius J. Kelders appeared before the Tokyo District Court today for the fourth time.

The pair already have confessed their implication in the crime. Van der Bol confessed previously that he hit the Japanese taxi driver on the head with a stick.

"How I came to commit this deed, I do not know," Van der Bol said after the trial today.

"But I regret it very much now."

Kelders, too, has expressed his "sincere regret" over the injury to the driver and their conduct on the night of November 3, 1954.

"ABSOLUTELY NEVER." "If we were not under alcoholic influence, we would not have committed the crime, absolutely never," Van der Bol said.

The taxi driver, who said he suffers partial paralysis as a result of the blow he received, testified previously that the men were not drunk when he picked them up.

Last week a Japanese bartender near Camp Druke where the incident took place testified that Kelders, while very drunk, had gone into his shop and tried to swallow a live gold fish.

Others have supported testimony that the men were drunk on the night of the incident.

The law under which the two soldiers are being tried allows for a minimum sentence of seven years and a maximum of life imprisonment. — United Press.

Malacca, Feb. 22. Labourers are refusing to start work on a new federation army camp near here because they fear the spirit of a "holy tiger" reputed to be guarding the grave of a Malay holy man on the camp site.

The tiger is said to guard the grave of the holy man, who died six generations ago. The efforts are said to be guarding the grave of a Malay holy man on the camp site.

However, a tiger is now being collected to buy a bundle. It will be sent to the grave to guard the spirit of the holy man and his descendants. They will be sent to the grave to guard the spirit of the holy man and his descendants.

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Lawyer's Appeal To Privy Council: Judgment Reserved

London, Feb. 22.

Judgment was reserved by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council today in the appeal by Mr. R. P. S. Rajasooria, advocate and solicitor of Kuala Lumpur against an order of three judges of the Supreme Court of Malaya in August, 1953, suspending him from practice for six months.

The order was made on the ground that Mr. Rajasooria had been guilty of grossly improper conduct in the discharge of his professional duty and followed an investigation by a disciplinary committee of a complaint on behalf of the Foh Hip Omnibus Company Limited.

In June, 1952, Mr. Rajasooria was consulted by a number of dissatisfied shareholders of the company, and he was alleged to have sent to the company in August an amended requisition of an extraordinary general meeting to which had been pasted the signatures of the original requisition.

The Committee found that the act was not done with intent to deceive.

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Salisbury, Feb. 22. The animals of Africa appear to have been affected by the bellicose atmosphere of world politics.

A Kudu bull, one of the heaviest but also one of the most peaceful of antelopes, recently picked out by the lights of a car on a main road put its head down and charged. It hurtled over the bonnet and smashed the windscreen before falling back on the road. It managed to pick itself up and walked off into the bush.

Two members of the South African police were motoring in the Transkei Native Reserve when a large eagle made a "kamikaze" attack on their windscreen.

"The eagle dived on our car again and again over a distance of several miles," said Detective Constable G.M. Maritz. He said, "I made a final attack with a terrific dive, seemed to misjudge the distance and crashed into the windscreen killing itself instantly."

Operation B boom — a mass hunt against a troop of about 100 baboons that have been marauding their tobacco and maize lands.

Armed with shotguns, chop-pers, and spears, 35 Europeans and 50 Africans went into action early one morning. Before breakfast, 30 baboons had been killed and the remainder, some wounded, had retreated in headlong flight into the hills.

FEATHERISATION. Some fraternisation in the animal was reported from Beira in Portuguese East Africa. A baby elephant, about a month old, walked into an asbestos-cement factory at Dondo, 15 miles from Beira.

He has apparently decided to make it his home. The workers at the factory are looking after him and giving him a daily diet of 10½ pints of milk, a dozen eggs and some vitamin tablets. —France-Press.

British Composers Swiss Success. Geneva, Feb. 22. British composers Peter Pears and Benjamin Britten received a tremendous ovation at the completion of their first Swiss concert here.

The programme included Elizabethan melodies and seven sonnets of Michael Angelo arranged by Britten.

Which audience was an enthusiastic one, wrote the music critic "La Suisse" — Reuters.

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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 1 Nap (6).
 - 2 Scint (6).
 - 3 Harden (6).
 - 4 Mountain range (6).
 - 5 Trap (6).
 - 6 Bird (6).
 - 7 Kind of lily (4).
 - 8 Comfortable spoils (6).
 - 9 Show off (6).
 - 10 Hard coating (6).
 - 11 Carrying-chair (6).
 - 12 Transparent mineral (4).
 - 13 Volumes (6).
 - 14 Flower (6).
 - 15 Word (6).
 - 16 Fruit (6).
 - 17 Coin (6).
 - 18 Value highly (6).
- DOWN
- 1 Keeps up (6).
 - 2 Carried out (6).
 - 3 Weary (4).
 - 4 Word, puzzle (7).
 - 5 Ammunition store (7).
 - 6 Took on lease (6).
 - 7 Deserve (6).
 - 8 Appear (6).
 - 9 Image, something seen, continuing when eyes are closed (6).
 - 10 Complete armour (7).
 - 11 Reliance (7).
 - 12 Race (6).
 - 13 Dodge (6).
 - 14 Feteles (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Robber, 5 Ample, 8 Vind, 9 Arable, 11 Versa, 12 Galore, 14 Bold, 16 Spill, 17 Green, 18 Dean, 22 Summer, 24 Trade, 25 Paring, 26 Food, 27 Beach, 28 Defiant, 29 Down, 30 Road, 31 Swirl, 32 Rascal, 33 Asbestos, 34 P. 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

When Dennis Eisenberg left his Johannesburg home for London he promised himself: "I'll try anything once." High on the list of "things I'll try once" was ballet. So when he reached London one of his first calls was to Covent Garden to watch the pick of the world's dancers at work. He decided to "have a go" but the youngster who'd hitch-hiked his way across Africa and Europe found that dancing can be a man-size job. Here he tells the story of that painful discovery.

Ballet For Innocents

THE blush on my face deepened as one of the girls giggled. Surely it was the worst moment in my life.

"Please," said the instructor, "Please try and follow—please don't invent your own steps." He rattled off a string of French words.

I hadn't the faintest idea what he was talking about. It had looked so easy, so graceful, at Covent Garden. So simple, that I had decided to try it for myself.

I ignored the scoffs and warnings of my friends. And I bought a pair of ballet shoes and...

Now feeling very silly, the only male in a class of young, aspiring ballerinas, I was bitterly regretting my brilliant idea.

The instructor was short and stocky; he looked more like a wrestler than my idea of a ballet teacher. He had rather a squeaky voice. "Now we will go through that again." He repeated a long list of French instructions.

No Idea

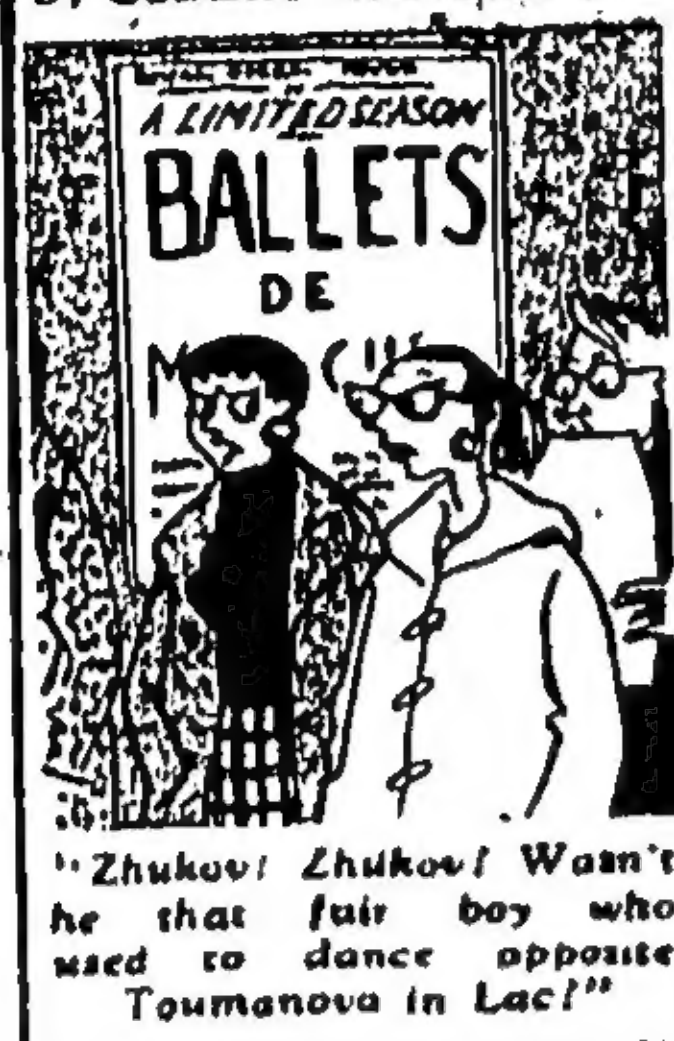
With he would talk in English, I thought. All that I could remember of five years of school French was "Merci" and "Garçon." Besides, even if I knew what a "Grand Battiment" was, I hadn't the faintest idea of how to do it.

"Please," he said wearily, "I told you before to open the thighs, point the toes, don't bend the knees, straighten the back. Now, first position."

Obediently, I forced the toes outward from their natural position, till one pointed to the east, the other to the west. I

By Dennis Eisenberg

POCKET CARTOON
by OSBERT LANCASTER



"Zhukov! Zhukov! Wan't he that fair boy who used to dance opposite Tchaikovsky in La!"

nearly fell over. "That's better," he said, but I was feeling as though I had been torn by wild horses.

"Now, one and two and three," he counted.

The idea was to try and bend while remaining in this extremely awkward position. I managed a descent of a couple of inches. Muscles I never knew existed came to life. Weird creaks and shooting pains were coming from all over my body. And my thighs! Just try to twist your thighs right round and then start squatting.

"Your hands," he yelled. I had forgotten to droop my hands. "Now stretch and stretch." I stretched and stretched and could have sworn I heard something snap. If only he'd go a little slower, I thought.

The trouble was that my left leg seemed to be in the way

of the right leg. My back kept on bending in sympathy to ease the sudden strain on sides and legs. It was supposed to stay rigid. My hands drooped the wrong way and I kept on confusing the third with the fourth position. The second one was easy. You stood this way, a soldier stands "at ease." The only complication was that the toes had to jut out sideways.

To add to my confusion, the plaintive wail of someone murdering Bach on a violin was drifting in from the studio next door. A male voice was bellowing Italian Opera from upstairs. Now I understood the purposeful notice at the entrance to the studios reminding singers to keep their windows closed when rehearsing.

A Brainwave

Stretch and bend, from fifth in front to fifth behind. Suddenly the pianist was fingering scraps of Liszt and Chopin, as we jumped and scraped in time to the music. I kept my eyes riveted to the feet of the girl in front of me. Nice figure, I thought, all the same. "Concentrate," I muttered fiercely to myself.

I jumped. I twirled. I pirouetted—and felt as clumsy as an elephant trying to compete with a herd of gazelles. Every now and then I would nearly topple over and had to grab at the hand rail along the wall. Would this never end? The minutes ticked by—oh, so slowly—when suddenly I had a brain-wave. I would pretend that I was ill or that I had pulled a muscle or something. "Coward," I heard someone say.

I decided to stick it out. At least the music stopped. The class was at an end. Body aching all over utterly exhausted and striving desperately to look dignified, I retired, defeated, to the shower room.

I can use the tight-fitting pyjamas, but is anyone interested in buying a pair of virtually new, size nine ballet shoes?

IF ONLY THE B.B.C. HADN'T CANCELLED THEIR CANDID INQUIRY...



"Well, ever since they heard the B.B.C. were talking of televising the black spots of British Railways..." London Express Service

Thousands have sought the fabulous treasures of El Dorado and have been defeated — by mud

THE SACRED LAKE OF THE GILDED MAN

By Kendall McDonald

THE flight drew a dull gleam from the breastplate and the armoured helm of the tall bearded Spaniard. He repeated over and over again the one question—"Where is El Dorado?"—to the thing that had been Saljpa, King of the Chibcha Indians, and now revolved on a spit over the fire. But the Indian died without speaking.

The year of 1548 was drawing to its end and already the lower heights of the Andes were capped with snow. The story of El Dorado—now spoken of in legend as a city of gold—had drawn the Spaniards Quesada and nearly 1,000 men-at-arms and followers through matted jungle and fever-stinking swamp in search of plunder—to the foothills of the Andes.

Their numbers had been cut down by two thirds on that journey—by desertion, Indian attacks, fever and exhaustion. Was it just a legend that drove them on? It was far more substantial a lure than that. El Dorado meant The Gilded Man—and the Spaniards had seen some of his treasures that had filtered through to the coast of South America—golden ornaments and emeralds "as big as a man's palm."

The Gilded Man did exist. And today his treasures are yours for the finding—if you can drain a lake and sift the mud at its bottom.

Saljpa, the Chibcha king, died in vain. There were some of his subjects who were impressed by the Spaniards' torture methods and talked. Quesada found that he had been camped only a day's march from the lake of untold treasure.

But first something of the story of the Gilded Man. The "sacred lake" of Guatavita, hiding place of the inexhaustible treasures of El Dorado, lies between nine and ten thousand feet above sea level on the summit of a conical mountain, not far from Bogota.

PILGRIMAGE

THE Chibchas, a tribe of Indians now vanished, numbered a million or more at the time of the Spanish conquests. They were as civilized as the Incas of Peru and the Aztecs of Mexico. Twice a year the tribe made a pilgrimage to the lake in whose depths, according to their religion, lived a goddess. One of the descendants of these

ancient people has described the ceremony of El Dorado. A solemn procession, with banners flying, assembled on the shores of the lake. A spell of silence was followed by a great outcry when, in a litter, on the top of one of the surrounding hills there appeared in the bright sunshine a gilded man—their King, who had first been bathed in turpentine and then covered with powdered gold.

Slowly he came down the hill to the lake... and embarked in a beautiful barge. At his feet was a heap of gold and another of emeralds. Four braziers filled with myrrh and other perfumes were placed at his side. Standing in the barge in his glittering "skin" of gold he was rowed by eight oarsmen to the centre of the lake.

There the Royal barge was moored, the braziers ignited, and on the shores the multitude of his subjects turned their backs to the lake, and a dead silence was broken by a splash as the King plunged into the water. Immediately the surface of the water began to glitter with gold and the Indians threw their golden offerings into the lake. The King, no longer in gilded splendour, broke surface, climbed

into his barge and threw into the lake his two heaps of gold and emeralds. Before the Spaniards came this ceremony had been going on for centuries; when they arrived the Indians dumped more treasure into the lake for safe keeping—the white men were said to love the yellow metal. And so through the clear waters of the lake to the soft muddy bottom some 214 feet beneath sank untold wealth.

TREASURE

THE Spaniards set about draining the lake. Using captive Indian labour they cut huge cliffs in the surrounding hills. Finally they lowered the depth of the lake to a mere 15 feet and found a great deal of treasure. But the soft sides of the lake crumbled and collapsed, and the lake refilled—to a depth of over 50 feet. The Spaniards gave up.

But the story was carried to the Western world and very soon took on the trappings of legend, gradually shifting its nature until it became symbolic of a golden city, a dream of gold,

riches of the stuff that dreams are made of. Further attempts followed to raise the treasure of the Gilded Man—for it seemed likely that the Spaniards had raised no more than a fraction of the total hoard. All efforts failed.

One calculation of the treasure in the lake at the beginning of this century—it must be guesswork—put its value at £112,000,000. In 1900, an English company with the most unromantic name of Contractors, Ltd., was registered with capital of £30,000 and took over the work of a Colombian concern that had been formed a few years earlier.

They found the lake was 46ft. deep at its lowest part and the British engineers planned to drain it by means of a tunnel cut through the mountains. This was to be 1,100ft. in length and 70ft. below the level of the waters.

The work took three years, because the lake kept re-filling, due to heavy rains and local springs. Finally, all the water was drained away.

NO RAIN

BUT the Gilded Man had not relied only on water to guard his treasures. The London syndicate waiting, jubilantly for news of great riches—they included a former M.P. for East Norfolk, Mr R. J. Price—were instead told of mud.

Mud, mud, and more mud—solid mud to a depth of 25ft.... Some 30,000,000 cubic feet in all. With £1,000,000,000 at stake, what was a little mud? The capital of Contractors was increased to £25,000 and the work went ahead. A new dam was built and a cleansing shift constructed to separate the gold from the mud. All that was wanted now was some more of the heavy rains which had held up the previous work and the mud would be washed away from the riches of centuries. But the rains never came.

A few rains were made enough to spur the engineers to greater effort. In 1908 the company's capital was raised once more to £40,000. And it rained—everywhere except where it would wash into the lake.

ABANDONED

AT Sotheby's about that time a breakfast of beaten gold from the lake raised £200. It weighed about eight ounces. A gold snake was auctioned there, too, for £215. The statue of a goddess raised £21. But the company was spending more and more money. And then came another blow. The mud set hard.

For more than two and a half years no drop of rain had fallen. The mud became like rock. The engineers drilled shafts here and there. Some ornaments of gold and precious stones were found. Their value was about £25,000. Finally, in 1915, the company had to abandon the hunt. The creditors met on July 11, 1915. Shortly afterwards came the war. The lake slowly refilled. The gold that is most certainly there seeps itself from its rock-hard casing into the soft families mud of the lake's floor and settles there again. It is there, then, the year has passed, but no more attempts have been made to raise the treasure of the Gilded Man. It is still there, but the hope of it is dead.

Miniature Masterpieces for Milady...

ROLEX

Superbly elegant. Precisely accurate. Rolex offer a miniature watch of superb elegance, yet with a movement large enough to be a marvel of accuracy—truly the best obtainable!

Nathaniel Gubbins

WHEN the people of our town see a bulky egg head with a worried look slapping one flat foot before the other down the High Street they ask themselves what's poor old Uncle Nat bothering about now?

Is he windy about the international situation? Has he had another consignment of literature from the British Israelites warning him that the End is Near? Has his one wild gamble on the Stock Exchange dropped another 14d?

Does he therefore see ruin staring him in the face? Has he decided, once more, to become a teetotaler, non-smoker, vegetarian? Does he hate the prospect of total abstinence? Is he battling with his conscience? Is he dreading Christmas gaily? Has he a hangover? Do his flat feet hurt?

Last October he was in the depths of despair because Alec Bedder had shingled. He read every line about Bedder's illness. As the recovery was slow he even suspected the Australian doctor in attendance of breaking the Oath of Hippocrates by keeping Alec out of the game as long as possible. In his misery he told himself this Australian would do anything to win back the Ashes. Bedder recovered. His Uncle Nat was left in a ridiculous world.

honest Australian doctor's pardon. Then Len Hutton straitened his leg. The atmosphere in the Sea Nest was terrible. A whole evening was spent in silence broken only by a muttered curse. Then Hutton got better and the Sea Nest rang with merry laughter once more.

Depression set in the next day. When the Flucky Little Woman asked, "Has Bedder got shingles again?" she was told "No. But Trevor Bailey is down with gastric flu."

Obviously the first Test was lost with our only all-rounder out of the game. Bedder wouldn't let him down. Hutton's leg would let him down. Then Bailey got better. Hooray. We still had a chance.

When Ray Lindwall took to his bed with a high temperature his uncle tried not to look pleased. But he thought this was making the game a bit more even though he hoped Lindwall wasn't suffering too much. But soon afterwards Graveney went down with gastric flu. As soon as he got up, McCann was hit in the stomach fielding at short leg. He went into a nursing home. Then Bailey split his finger. The first Test was lost again. Bailey recovered. The first Test was won again.

Since then his dreams have been haunted by visions of English cricketers popping in and out of hospital, being dragged from their beds to play with thermometers in their mouths, and villainous Australian doctors disguised as umpires giving English batsmen chloroform as they totter to the crease in their pyjamas.

So the next time anybody sees the bulky egg head's worried frown they can be assured he is not bothered about trifling matters like the end of civilisation because he doubts if it ever began.

He will only be wondering which English cricketer is going down with shingles or gastric flu next.

Albert the Poet

INSPIRED by a report in the papers of an electronic brain in Manchester that can write poetry, Albert, the robot columnist, asked if he could write a poem to Mildred, the female robot working for the American Navy.

Oh, not for me the passing charm,
Of shining hair and rounded arm.
The swift, bright glance, the sudden smile,
That other, mortal men beguile.
What brighter glance than yours, Mildred,
Electric eyes in metal head?
What mortal hair could shake as bright
As polished steel beneath the light?
My lovely Mildred, factory fresh,
Away, away with human flesh.
That withers like the fading rose.
Give me a robot girl that goes,
Give me a girl with humming joints,
Who ages not and never tires.
I said: "Careful, Albert!"
Who never tires of telling me,
Albert, Albert, I love thee,
Oh, Mildred, how I long to feel
Your loving arms of hardened steel.
And long to hear your iron feet
As we go clanking down the street.
Mildred, dear, I love you true,
And every nut and bolt in you,
And as I never love by halves,
I love your rivets, screws, and valves.
I said: "That will do, Albert."
My love, my love, I never doubtless
I love your two-body joints and spindles,
I love your...
I said: "That will do, Albert."



The Spot of Honour at the top of the Sports Parade this week is given over to Referee Stanley who did such a fine job of handling the third and final game of the Hongkong-Admiral Soccer series.

The visit of the Austrian footballers produced plenty of stormy controversy but there was nothing but praise accorded to Mr Stanley for his work in making the final game such a fine one.

There is always a risk of a clash of ideas and styles when teams from different parts of the world meet but, by his common sense and practical approach to the job in hand, Mr Stanley satisfied both sides, and it was pleasing to see so many of the Admirals players going forward to shake hands with him at the end.

Later Dr Kuter, who was in charge of the visiting party said that he had been very pleased with the refereeing in the last game and stated that he had no complaint or excuse to offer for his team's defeat.

By reason of their task referees get few bouquets and it is therefore a special pleasure to put on record our appreciation of Mr Stanley's work with the whistle.

THE SAME SIX

When the competing units report to the referees table for the commencement of the Minor Units Athletics Finals next Wednesday it will appear to many people that the calendar has been flicked back one year for the six teams who have qualified this time are exactly the same six as won their way through to the finals in 1952.

This is a most interesting feature and a couple of mathematicians were hard at it the other day trying to work out the odds on such a thing happening twice.

The qualifying teams are as follows:—27 Lt. (Strangers) Bty, RA, HQ 48 Bde, 6 COD, 173 Loc, Bty, RA, CPO, and District Workshops.

The usual 'spot-the-winner' game is already being played but it is not easy to single out any team that can be said to be the clear favourites and one of the fascinating features is that the different teams are strong in different departments.

This means that getting the subsidiary places is going to be a most important as winning especially if the fancied competitors manage to win their particular events.

HARD PUT TO IT

Cricket enthusiasts are asking what has come over the crack Army South team that has now released its grip on the leadership of the Colony Premier League to KCC.

Two draws have cost the side valuable points and while the position is by no means hopeless they are going to be hard put to it to retain the championship.

It is interesting to hear that Major Peter Chubb, the team captain, has decided to give up his wicketkeeping position so that he can give more attention to the vital captaincy duties.

Apart from anything else it is believed that he has not been too happy recently about his work behind the stumps and feels that the necessity of concentrating on every ball is not giving him a real chance to think about the wider aspects of the game.

This seems to be a wise decision and it will be most interesting to see how the team fortunes react to the change.

With the Army hockey side now in Singapore for the FARELF Championships there is a lull in the game but at least one well-known umpire cannot resist the call of the sticks.

Major S. J. B. Boycott, R. A., has agreed to officiate in the play-off of the Senior Schools Championship between King George V School and Queen's College. The game will be played at King's Park this afternoon and the bully off will be at 4.30 p.m.

FIRST CLASS FORM
Army footballers Higgins and Morris were in first class form when they represented the Colony against Admiral FC in the second game of the tour last Saturday.

PETER KEENAN OUTPOINTS DANTE BINI

Glasgow, Feb. 22.
Peter Keenan, the British heavyweight, has defeated the champion, outpointed Dante Bini (France) over 10 rounds in a non-title bout here tonight.

It was Keenan's last fight before leaving for Australia, where he meets Bobby Binn, the Australian Champion, for the vacant British Empire Heavyweight title.

SATURDAY'S RUGGER INTERNATIONAL SCOTLAND CAN TAKE A STEP TOWARDS THE TRIPLE CROWN

Says J. R. WATKINS

The two Home Rugby titles, the International Tournament, and the Triple Crown, go up for auction on February 26, when England meet France at Twickenham, and Scotland entertain Ireland at Murrayfield.

France, who this season have beaten Scotland and Ireland, are favourites for the International Championship; Scotland, the one unbeaten country in Great Britain, alone have a chance of winning the Triple Crown.

Strange that Scotland, so long Cinderella country, should step boldly into the limelight as potential champions.

They rely on an unchanged team to oppose Ireland at Murrayfield, the scene of that amazing victory over the Welsh.

They have every reason to be satisfied with that performance. And, of course, the advantage of a settled team are immeasurable.

The big centre-forward was injured in the first-half when he clashed with the Austrian goalkeeper. Although still more over the week-end it is expected that he will be fit to take his place in the side against the Royal Air Force this week.

The finals of the Major Units Athletics will be staged at Boundary Street on Saturday, March 12. The qualifying teams are 1st Bn. Essex Regt., 1st Northampton, 27 HAA Regt. RA, 25 Fd. Regt. RA, 14 Fd. Regt. RA, 24 Fd. Engineer Regt., and two units representing 48 Inf. Bde.

The brilliant Essex team will no doubt start favourites but they would be wrong to think that this is going to be an easy victory. They will find plenty of willing opponents and they will have to be in top form to collect the premier award.

The Army will meet the Royal Air Force in an Inter-Service Squash match at Victoria Barracks on March 1, at 4 p.m. The Army team has been selected as follows:—Lt. Col. J. J. Sullivan, RAMC, Capt. R. D. Weeks, RAMC, Lt. M. Q. Fraser, 7 Hussars, Capt. D. Pegg, 3 Sup. Depot, Capt. M. B. E. Paterson, 14th Fd. Regt. RA.

MAJOR UNITS SOCCER

Hire are all the results to date in the Major Units Soccer Cup Competition—Quarter Finals:—

72 LAA Regt. RA, 6, 27 HAA Regt. RA, 4.
1 Bn. Essex Regt. 0, 2/7 Gurkha Rifles, 2.

1 King's Own Regt. 2, 32 Med. Regt. RA, 4.
14 Fd. Regt. RA, 1, 25 Fd. Regt. RA, 1 (After Extra Time).

25 Fd. Regt. RA, 9, 14 Fd. Regt. RA, 1 (Re-played at Soerhoo).

The uncertainty of cup-football was again well demonstrated in the twice fought battle between the 14th and 25th Regts., Royal Artillery. In the first game it was touch-and-go all the way but the 14th Field team ran into a chapter of misadventure in connection with the re-play.

They had some unforeseen difficulties en route to the ground and when the game was eventually started a couple of quick goals by the 25th took the wind out of their sails and they went down to heavy defeat.

The draw for the semi-finals is as follows:—32 Med. Regt. RA v. 25 Fd. Regt. RA at Sek Kong.
2/7 Gurkha Rifles v. 72 LAA Regt. RA at Tam Mei.

Both games will be played on Wednesday, March 9.

In spite of the fact that entries for the Land Forces Individual Athletic Championships close on February 28, very few names have so far been received. One surprise is the fact that Captain J. Hunter, RAMC, who turned in some excellent performances in the 48 Bde. Minor Units Team Championships, has not entered.

Many good judges think that he would be well placed in the prize lists.

The Minor Units Football Cup tournament has now reached the semi-final stage and the draw is as follows:—

Q (Mov) & 40 Postal Unit v. 6 COD at Boundary Street.
27 Lt. Bty, RA, v. Cmd Workshops at Pak Yuen.

Both games will be played on Wednesday, March 9.

GOOD BOXING

There has already been some good boxing in the Land Forces Team Championships and there is a promise that still better fighting will be seen in the semi-final matches which came out of the first at as follows:—

1 King's Own Regt. v. 1 Northampton of Hqs. Stables on March 3.
1 North Staffs v. 1 Essex on March 4 at a venue still to be fixed.

The final of the Championships will be staged on Monday, March 7 and the experts are predicting that it will be fought between 1 King's Own and 1 North Staffs.

and forwards McSweeney and Thompson are known for their spirited play.

But with sights trained on the Triple Crown, Scotland will not be stopped by zest alone.

FIVE CHANGES

After their indifferent showing against Ireland, England, too, gave marching orders to the failures of Lansdowne Road. Five changes have been made.

Skipper Nim Hall is replaced at full back by Gibbs of Harlequins; Ted Woodward loses his place on the right wing to Sykes; P. J. Taylor, P. H. Ryan and J. Hancock are superseded in the pack by Yarranton, Wilson and Beer; Sykes and Beer are new caps.

The dropping of Hall is no surprise. What is surprising is the choice of Gibbs as replacement, and the handing over of the captaincy to Young.

Gibbs, although a reliable kicker, did not have a very good game against the fast-moving French.

The selection of Young as captain though, is a shock. As leader of the pack against Wales and Ireland he could not inspire his men. If he is to lead the forwards as well, there cannot be much improvement, even allowing for the return of the dynamic Wilson.

Not enough anyway to hold France with a teamwork among backs and forwards reminiscent of the great Springboks.

THE TEAMS

England: N. Gibbs (Harlequins); F. D. Sykes (Northampton); J. Butterfield (Northampton); W. P. C. Davies (Harlequins); R. C. Davies (Warrack); D. G. S. Baker (O. Merchant Taylors); J. E. Williams (O. Millhills); O. W. Hastings (Gloucester); N. A. Labouchere (Guy's); D. St. G. Hazell (Leicester); P. D. Young (Dublin Wanderers), (captain); F. G. Yarranton (Wasps); D. S. Wilson (Met. Police); J. D. S. Beer (O. Whittakers); R. Higgins (Liverpool).

Scotland: A. Cameron (Glasgow H.S.F.P.), (captain); A. R. Smith (Cambridge University); M. K. Elgie (London Scottish); J. T. Docherty (Glasgow H.S.F.P.); J. S. Swan (London Scottish); G. T. Ross (Watsonians); J. A. Nichol (Royal H.S.F.P.); H. F. McLeod (Hawick); W. K. L. Elph (Stewart F.P.); T. Elliot (Gala); J. S. Michie (Aberdeen University); J. W. Y. Kemp (Glasgow H.S.F.P.); W. S. Glen (Edinburgh Wanderers); J. T. Greenwood (Dunfermline); A. Robson (Hawick).

Ireland: W. J. Tector (Wanderers); R. Roche (U. C. Galway); N. J. Henderson (N. of Ireland); A. O'Reilly (O. Belvedere); A. C. Pedlow (Queen's Univ.); S. Kelly (Lansdowne); S. J. McDermott (London Irish); F. E. Anderson (North. Ireland); F. C. J. R. Roe (Lansdowne); P. J. O'Donoghue (Boctive); M. N. Madden (Sunday's Well); R. H. Reid (London Irish); R. E. Thompson (Institutions) (captain); D. McSweeney (Blackrock College) (London Express Service).

Swaps, Ridden By Longden, Wins Santa Anita Derby

Arcadia, Calif., Feb. 21.
Swaps, a California colt, ridden by British-born former American champion jockey, Johnny Longden, won the \$137,000 (\$48,900 sterling) Santa Anita Derby for three-year-olds here today.

Second was Jean's Joe, ridden by Eddie Arcaro, and third was Blue Ruler, ridden by Willie Shoemaker. They are both from the Murren Stable, started equal favourites and were aided by the British stallion Nasrullah.

The time for the mile and one furlong was one minute 50 seconds, slow compared with the track record of one minute, 49 and one fifth seconds.

The winner's share is \$80,400 (\$23,270 sterling). There were 14 starters, all carrying 115 pounds.

One of the longest shots of the race, Honey's Alibi, son of the British bred stallion Alibhai, came fourth.—Reuter.

San Remo Tennis Tournament

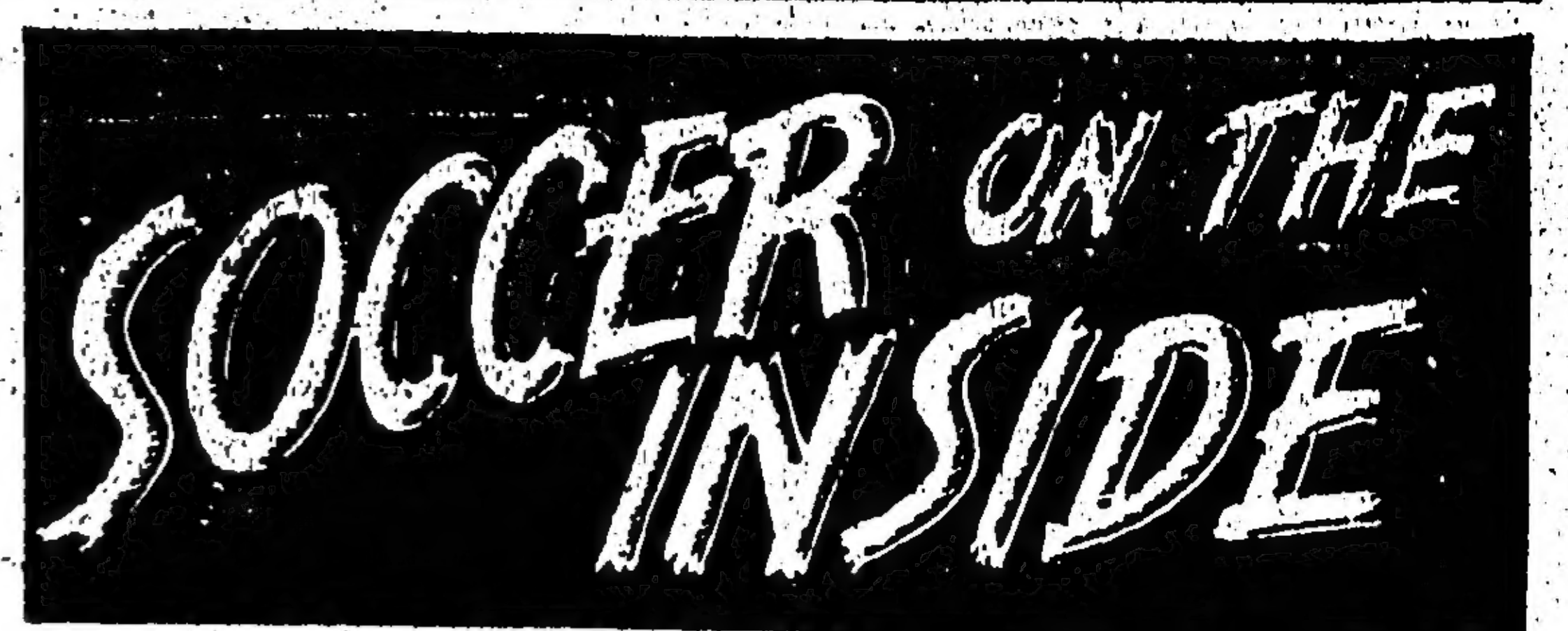
San Remo, Italy, Feb. 22.
Three Americans and Yugoslav Drobny advanced into the third round of the International Tennis Tournament here today. Results were as follows:

Jaroslav Drobny (Egypt) beat Quatro (Italy) 6-1, 6-1.
Hugh Stewart (US) beat Olina (Italy) 6-0, 6-1.

Budge Patty (US) beat De Michel (Italy) 6-2, 6-3.
Tony Vincent (US) beat Verrill (Italy) 6-2, 6-1.—United Press.

Seaman Staging A Comeback

Donald Seaman, runner up to Roger Hammer for the British mile title in 1952, plans a comeback this year. He has completely recovered from a serious leg injury which kept him out of athletics for ten months in the latter part of 1952. He is taking every advantage of his training facilities to prepare for the next A.A.U. Championships (London Express Service).



(Edited by SAM LEITCH & TERENCE ELLIOTT)

A tricky Chelsea situation looming ahead, involving loyal Stamford Bridge servant Johnny Harris. Manager Ted Drake asked Johnny to stand down for a week or two some time back to give reserve Peter Sillett a League chance. Johnny readily agreed.

Now Sillett cannot be left out. Johnny appreciates the position but is itching to get back in the Cup and Championship fight.

Johnny has very definite ideas of soccer management when his playing days are over, but he wants to stay in the game. In a League place, for at least another season.

What was Leyton Orient manager Alec Stock doing on the Bristol City ground recently? Could be that Orient want to model their new £20,000 stand on that of their promotion rivals.

Thought for all professional footballers: "University players are so intelligent—they play football the easy way because of that. All professionals could watch and learn from them."

That's Reading chief Jack Smith speaking after watching Unicorns (the new Universal's Athletics Union side) play at Reading.

PROUDEST PLAYER

Introducing the proudest player in the Third Division. He is Don Mills, inside-left of Torquay and the former Leeds and Queen's Park Rangers forward.

Reason for his delight? Just a pair of black, lightweight boots, size 6½. But they are no ordinary boots.

They belonged to Stan Matthews and after Stan's game as a guest in a football match in Torquay he presented the boots to the Torquay player.

"I shall wear them until they are no more good for playing," said Mills. "Then I shall keep them among my soccer souvenirs."

At last an explanation of Luton's dangerously low gates, the 16,000 average that would make a mockery of the First Division.

Here is Luton Chairman P. G. Mitchell: "People in Luton today don't support the home team. They are drawn by the opposition. So you can see why it is vital we win promotion for our gates would jump with First Division visitors."

IN NO HURRY

Leicester directors 'won't be in a hurry to fill the job left by Norman Bullock. They won't have any shortage of applicants either.

Col. Sullivan Wins Army Squash Title

In a hard fought match which went all of four sets Lt Col. J. J. Sullivan captured the Army Squash Championship title from Capt. R. D. Weekes when he won by the score of 9-7, 9-2, 4-9 and 11-9 at Victoria Barracks courts yesterday.

The match was a fast and furious affair with the experience of Sullivan matching the agility and power play of Weekes. And experience triumphed.

It was a point for point struggle in the first game, but Sullivan managed to gather the vital two in succession to take the lead, and followed this with an easy win in the second.

Weekes came back strongly in the third game to win 9-4, and continued his run of scoring in the fourth to see him leading at one stage by 8-4 requiring only one more point to level the score in games.

Sullivan, however, staided and playing carefully slowly crept up and through sheer courtcraft and determination levelled at 8-8 and went on to win game, set and title with a powerful placement.

At the conclusion, the Army Squash Championship trophy was presented to the winner by Major Dawson, CBE, Chief of Staff, Hongkong Land Forces.

Local fans have been quick to associate former manager Tom Bromlow with the vacancy. But the Leicester board don't want to lose Tom as their chief scout.

Dave Dunmore, 'Spurs' leader, did not have a happy 21st birthday.

It fell on Friday. Friday was Cup-day eve in York before 'Spurs' tackled Dave's old side. And Dunmore knew he wouldn't be in that 'Spurs' side.

And Friday marked the end of National Service detourment for the York apprentice coach-builder. Any day now he will be called up.

Blackburn Rovers like Dunfermline's 22-year-old right back Alex Laird. So high was

the boost given to Alex by Blackburn's Scottish scout that manager Johnny Carey travelled to Scotland to see the lad in action in the Scottish Cup clash between Dunfermline and Airdrie.

WHAT'S WRONG

What's wrong with the Preston scoring machine that notched 51 goals to December? Don't worry, you fed up fans. The management are doing plenty of that for all concerned. Cheer up in anticipation of manager Frank Hill's first big signing.

Alert to the urgent need for strengthening the attack and team-building, Mr Hill means business—and quickly—with a forceful inside forward priority No. 1.

(—London Express Service.)

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THE EMPIRE TROOPER TO BE BROKEN UP

London, Feb. 22. One of Britain's most famous troopships is to end her days in a shipbreaker's yard after 15 years of voyage, during which she has taken thousands of servicemen to all the trouble spots of the world.

She is the 14,000-ton *Empire Trooper*, a former German liner. Since she was first captured by the British in 1940, she has been used as a troopship, a transport, a hospital ship, and a cargo ship. She was often used to carry the ship the *Norfolk* to the East.

The *Empire Trooper* was built for the Hamburg-Amerika Line in 1940. In 1942, as the *Cop* had been captured, she was transferred to the Royal Navy and used for nearly 2,000 military passengers and 400 crew.

At the outbreak of war the *Cop* had been transferred to the Royal Navy's fleet of German ships by sailing for home from South America.

But she was captured by HMS *Bulwer* and fitted out as a troopship.

Shortly after, on Christmas Day 1940, she was in an outward-bound convoy from a British port. She was attacked by the *Empire Trooper* and was badly damaged.

But the *Empire Trooper* was soon back in service taking a leading part in the campaign in Madagascar, Sicily and Italy.

After an exchange with the *Empire Trooper* in 1943, the *Empire Trooper* began taking troops to and from the East and it was during this period, at the end of the summer in 1944, that she enabled the Guards to add their long history of military honours.

She took large contingents of Guardsmen east for the Malaya campaign and it had almost become a tradition of the Brigade of Guards that they never served East of the Suez in peace time.

(London Express Service).

Early Train 'Plebiscite' Rejected

Bonn, Feb. 22. West German railway officials carried out a "plebiscite" to decide whether the time of an early morning workers' train should be changed.

The officials distributed voting papers to all passengers on the Greding-Roth train in Bavaria asking for their opinions on a request by some passengers that the train should start 30 minutes earlier.

The request was rejected by 200 to 54, with six abstentions.

(Reuter).

Menzies To Visit Athens

Athens, Feb. 22. The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, is to visit Athens, where he will stay five days at the guest of the Greek Government.

The Australian Prime Minister will arrive in Athens on February 23 from London where he has been attending the Commonwealth conference.

During his stay here Mr. Menzies will hold conversations with the Prime Minister and other members of the Government on matters of mutual concern.

The question of Greek emigrants to Australia will also come under consideration.

(Reuter).

U.S. Business Activity Increased

Washington, Feb. 22. The Commerce Department announced today a further advance in United States business activity in early weeks of 1955, continuing the substantial rise occurred in the fourth quarter of 1954.

The Commerce Department announcement was based upon an annual review of economic conditions, which also revealed that United States business activity increased by \$1,000,000,000 compared with the same period of 1954.

India's First Newsprint Mill Open Next Month

New York, Feb. 22. Ceremonies marking the formal dedication of India's first newsprint mill are tentatively set for March 5, it was announced here today.

The \$12,000,000 project, described as the first such enterprise on the mainland of Asia, is the only modern one in the world designed and constructed to process newsprint for the first time commercially from bamboo at Sahai Chandi in Central India, about 225 miles northeast of Bombay.

According to Ebasco Services, Inc., New York designers of the plant, the anticipated output is estimated at about 35,000 tons annually and is expected to go a long way toward relieving India's lack of print.

Previously, Indian newspapers were forced to import their raw print from Canada or Scandinavia.

Prime Minister Nehru and other top Government officials are expected to be present at the dedication ceremonies.

(United Press).

Steel Industry Expansion To Cost £300m

London, Feb. 22. Britain's current five-year plan to modernise and expand her steel industry will cost £300 million, an official report said today.

The report, presented to Parliament by the Iron and Steel Board, estimates that by 1958—when the five-year period of development ends—the supply and demand for crude steel will both total 22,500,000 tons.

This will represent an increase of 3,840,000 ingot tons in the use of steel in Britain in the five years.

Production is already growing rapidly and should reach 19,000,000 ingot tons this year. By 1958, the need for imports of steel will be "negligible," the report said.

The Iron and Steel Board was set up in 1953 by the present Conservative Government as an official co-ordinating body for the industry when it removed steel from state ownership and handed it back to private enterprise.

(Reuter).

Boom Year For Danish Shipyards

Copenhagen, Feb. 22. Danish shipyards had a boom year in 1954, building no less than 203,000 tons deadweight of new ships.

Sixteen thousand workmen are now employed in the yards and if more labour were available the output could be largely increased.

Burmeister and Wains, the biggest shipyard in Denmark, has recently been reorganised and could produce 180,000 tons of shipping yearly if the skilled labour were available. Danish yards have enough work for two or three years.

(Reuter).

Calcutta Tea Auction

Calcutta, Feb. 22. There were 2,819 lots totalling 9,091,000 lbs. on offer today at the tea auction sale here.

The sale opened quietly with prices at considerably lower levels except black lead spots. Later demand improved and there was some recovery. Quotations in rupees per lb. were:

Dust Medium Deyara..... 2-4
Best Assam CTC..... 5-1
Quotations for leaves were made tentative due to the in-adequate quantity available for sale.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

WEAKNESS OF Outer Area Members Living Beyond Means And Losing Reserves

London, Feb. 22.

Three reasons are given for the present weakness of sterling in the foreign exchange market.

The first is that members of the outer sterling area are living beyond their means and running down their reserves.

The second is that British grain traders are buying unusually large amounts of American grain.

Increase In Customs Classifications On Watches

Washington, Feb. 22.

United States officials said today the Customs Bureau, which is part of the Treasury, is expected to announce in about two weeks a decision to put in higher customs classifications on imported watches that are up-jewelled in the U.S.

They understood the Bureau so far has not received anything which would make it consider revoking this decision but is still studying briefs submitted by interests for and against reclassification of such watches.

They said it appears the Bureau does not think it a good idea to suspend action until a conference is held on all aspects of watch imports.

They said the Bureau issues what is called a change in practice when it announced intention to reclassify such watches and when this is done the decision becomes irrevocable.

There then ensues a 90-day period before the reclassification comes into force to permit importers to get rid of watches in warehouses and on route from Switzerland that have been classified under the present classification.

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Britons Buy An Atom Mine

London, Feb. 22.

A British mining company and a group of bankers, including the House of Rothschild, are putting up the cash for the Empire's biggest uranium mine—in Canada.

The £7,500,000 (about \$20,000,000) needed is the most ever spent by Britain on a Canadian mining project.

The cash goes to Algonquin Mines in Ontario. It will boost its output to 6,000 tons of uranium ore a day—to produce the vital metal for atom bombs and nuclear power.

Heading the British group is the Rio Tinto mining company. Also in on the deal is the multi-million free enterprise Commonwealth Development Finance Company and famed City bankers Robert Benson, Londale.

Rio Tinto takes over management of the mine and the British group gets control for a guaranteed 10-year minimum.

Arrangements have already been made to sell the uranium produced in the first five years.

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United States, but it is being allowed to do so this year on an unusually large scale.

The third reason, the American use of transferable sterling, is the one that had caused the most discussion in London, although quantitatively it may be the least important.

In March last year, the Bank of England let it be known that it would no longer throw on unofficial dealings in foreign centres of transferable sterling against the dollar.

Shortly afterwards some of the leading bankers in New York circulated their clients advising them that transferable sterling could be purchased against dollars at a discount on the official rate.

NARROW MARKET

Previously, such transactions had been confined to small dealers, the market was a narrow one and the margin between buying and selling prices was wide.

When the bigger banks entered the market it became much better ordered and the facilities offered have on some recent occasions compared favourably with those on the official market.

The Americans, therefore, are doing more of their sterling buying through the unofficial transferable market and the sterling area is not getting the dollars.

OBVIOUS WAY

The obvious way of stopping this trend would be to make transferable sterling more scarce and this can be done by deflation—in Britain and in the other sterling area countries.

The rise of one-half per cent in the British bank rate a fortnight ago was a preliminary move in this direction.

It may yet prove adequate, but the continued weakness of sterling seems to show that further measures will be needed and it is widely expected in the City of London that the Bank of England will soon raise its rate again by another half per cent.

(China Mail Special).

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Rise In U.S. Unemployment Predicted

Washington, Feb. 22.

Mr. Leon Keyserling, economic adviser to former President Truman, predicted tonight that unemployment will rise to nearly 5,000,000 this year.

There now are, slightly more than 3,000,000 unemployed in the United States, according to Government figures.

Mr. Keyserling, now a private economic consultant, said there is in the United States a "very complacency that all is well when all is not well."

Mr. Keyserling said: "Some time this year, unemployment will be close to 5,000,000 if policies do not change."

He said the number of jobs will rise "because the economy is not expanding enough to pick up the increase in population, the growth in the number wanting jobs and able to work."—United Press.

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HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$301,055. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS

HSK Bank 100 100 100

East Asia 100 100 100

INSURANCES

Union 100 100 100

Lombard 100 100 100

SHIPPING

Asia Nav 100 100 100

DOCKS, ETC.

K. Wharf 100 100 100

PROVIDENT (O) 100 100 100

LAND, ETC.

HSK Hotel 100 100 100

HSK Land 100 100 100

HSK Realty 100 100 100

UTILITIES

Tram 100 100 100

HSK Power 100 100 100

HSK Water 100 100 100

HSK Light 100 100 100

HSK Telephone 100 100 100

INDUSTRIALS

Cement 100 100 100

HSK Cement 100 100 100

HSK Cement 100 100 100

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Tokyo Stock Market Review

Tokyo, Feb. 22. Except for steel and shipping shares which showed gains stocks generally declined last week on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Stock market observers termed the decline as an "evening up" process from the speculative gains of the previous two weeks when record prices and turnover were registered.

The evening-up process was initiated by alarm arising over the record loan made by the Nippon Securities Company of 3.5 billion yen. This was the highest loan made since 1933.

The indication that the Bank of Japan would take necessary financial measures against the continued rise of wholesale prices and speculative dealings in steel also helped to check the announced price rise in steel prices. The announcement spurred rise in Nippon Steel, Kobe Steel and Sumitomo Metal Industry stocks.

SHIPPING SHARES

In the shipping field Nippon Shosen shares rose to 80 yen for the third time in three months and the par value of same in 50 yen. Report of a 30 per cent increase in its capital was given as the cause for the rise in these shares.

Mitsubishi, Naniwa and Sumitomo Wharves dropped. Rumours of Mitsui chahi companies merger resulted in heavy buying of these shares but with no noticeable effect on prices. Fishery stocks which were on the decline last week brightened by prospects of a formal Japanese fishery reservation.

Speculatives—Tokyo Marine and Fire Insurance, Daiwa Real Estate, Nishimura Spinning and Mitsubishi Department—continued to be quiet.

(United Press).

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1955.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

CLOSE SHAVE

THE street market lay only a few hundred yards from the din and bustle of a main highway, but in the quiet street where the stalls were set up there was a kind of village atmosphere and calm. Customers and stall-holders knew each other by name, and knew much of each other's family history. Credit was discreetly given, gossip and confidences freely exchanged. A small and happy world.

In this one-street village the other day, a stall-holder, obliged on acquaintance, took the man's son on the strength of his establishment.

MAKING PROGRESS

THE boy, whose name was Alfred, proved a ready learner at his temporary trade, and the stall's proprietor was soon able to report on his progress in glowing terms to his father.

It came, therefore, as a severe shock to Alfred's employer when one day he observed his young assistant helping himself to a packet of razor-blades from the stall. The employer decided that Alfred needed a sharp lesson.

A policeman happened to be passing. Alfred's employer called him over and told him what he had seen. The officer looked at Alfred.

"Is it right you've stolen a packet of blades?" he asked.

Alfred turned very pale. He hung his head. "I've took three," he muttered.

TOO LATE

"Did anyone give you permission to take them?"

"No."

"You'd better come along with me."

The policeman led Alfred towards the station. Before the pair had gone far, Alfred's employer caught up with them. He had decided that Alfred had by now, probably learned his lesson.

"Okay," he said to the policeman. "The boy's been scared enough. I reckon I'll withdraw the charge."

But it was too late to amend matters that way.

ARRIVAL

AT the Clerkwell court next morning, Alfred pleaded guilty to stealing the three packets of blades, and the story was briefly told to Mr. T. F. Davis, the magistrate.

"This young man's employer is here to speak for him," said the officer in charge of the case.

Alfred's employer stepped forward. "This boy's always been very satisfactory," he began.

"I suppose you'll still think him satisfactory if you hadn't found out about this?" the magistrate suggested.

"Oh, yes, he's a good boy at heart. And his family's very nice and they're customers of mine." There was great anguish in the tone of Alfred's employer as he said that.

THE PENALTY OF SHAME

"WHAT do you want to say?" the magistrate asked.

"It was a spur of the moment," Alfred gulped. "Regretted after."

"What you're sorry about is that you were found out," said the magistrate sharply. "Had it not been for what your employer has told me, you would go to prison. You need a salutary lesson. Pay a fine of £10 or go to prison for one month."

"Thank you, sir," said Alfred, and he hurried fearfully away with part of his punishment still to come—the return to the village-like street market, where everyone knew everyone, and all would know where he had spent the morning.

'52 Plus' Haircut

London, Feb. 22. A haircut the Marquis of Milford Haven had recently cut him £2 more than usual—the fine he had to pay for leaving his car outside in the street so that it caused an obstruction.

"I always leave it there when I go for a haircut," he said in court yesterday.

The Marquis was the best man at the wedding of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh—China Mail Special.

NEW ZEALAND'S ASSURANCE TO SEATO COUNCIL

Bangkok, Feb. 23. The New Zealand External Affairs Minister, Mr Thomas L. Macdonald, today assured the Asian members of SEATO that his country would play its part in making the organisation "a real and working partnership between East and West."

In his speech at the opening meeting of the SEATO Council, Mr Macdonald said the delegates would be giving form and life to the organisation.

Request For English Lawyer To Argue Case

Lahore, Feb. 22. Pakistan's supreme judicial authority today halted action by the Sind provincial chief court to restore Tamizuddin Khan to the Presidency of the Constituent Assembly and to turn five Cabinet Ministers out of office.

The Sind court had ruled that the Governor-General, Ghulam Mohammed, acted illegally in dissolving the Constituent Assembly last October. It held that the five ministers were not entitled to exercise the functions of ministers because they were not members of the Assembly.

The full bench of five judges of the Federal Court today ordered the Sind court to stay its writs.

But the judges refused an application by the Advocate-General for an adjournment of the appeal hearing—fixed for March—to allow a constitutional expert to come from England to plead the Pakistan government's case.

Chief Justice Mohammad Munir said that only in special circumstances could a foreign lawyer be imported to argue a case.

JUDGE'S QUERY

He asked "What are the grounds on which he should be allowed to appear?"

"We can allow this if we accept the grounds that Fayyaz Ali—the Advocate-General—was unable to argue the case and there are no counsel who can argue it."

The Advocate-General said: "No, your Lordship, I have been arguing the case for many days and know the case thoroughly."

"But we want to engage an English lawyer because there are questions of the British Constitution involved in the case."

The Chief Justice: "Which you do not know?"

Advocate-General: "It is up to your Lordships to decide."

The Chief Justice said: "We are not willing to adjourn the case but you can bring the lawyer at your own risk."

"We will decide whether he should be allowed to appear or not,"—Reuter.

Tragic Death Of Month-old Baby

London, Feb. 22. A one-month-old baby girl, Marion McKewen, was suffocated when her father folded up a bed so that the child was asleep in it, an inquest was told at Middlesbrough today.

The father, Mr Joseph McKewen, said the baby normally slept in a cot but last Saturday she had been taken into the bed with him and his wife.

"After dressing and folding up the bed, thinking my wife had the baby, we had a meal," he told the coroner. "Shortly afterwards I remarked on the quietness of the baby, and for the first time noticed that the cot was empty."

"I took my wife where the child was and she told me she had left her in the bed." Verdict: accidental death.—China Mail Special.

Churchill Says 'No'

London, Feb. 22. Sir Winston Churchill today turned down a Labour M.P.'s proposal that Britain should have a ministry of aircraft and guided missile production. The Labour opposition has been attacking the Government for the delay in the delivery of military aircraft.—Reuter.

He warned that Southeast Asia was faced with a "grave and ever present danger from the expansionist ambitions of the new Communist imperialism which is seeking to dominate the whole world."

Mr Macdonald said the danger from Communist infiltration and subversion might well prove greater in the immediate future than that from open Communist aggression.

The courtiers of Southeast Asia have already acquired a deeply bought experience of the subtle techniques of Communist subversion from within. We shall consider how, jointly, we can help each other to meet this danger," he said.

Mr Macdonald told the other foreign ministers that by her presence in the future of Southeast Asia, New Zealand wished to make clear her concern for the security and well-being of the Southeast Asian area.

"As a Pacific country, New Zealand is anxious to take a vital interest in the future of Southeast Asia," he added.

Australian External Affairs Minister Richard G. Casey said that Australia had a sense of urgency regarding the danger of Southeast Asia that "I believe is no less than that of those whose lives are cast in the threatened area."

In his speech at the opening of the SEATO Council, Mr Casey said he wished to stress the fact that continued Communist effort to undermine the free countries of Asia must be countered far more effectively than they have been in the past.—Reuter.

Back From Conference

Mrs Arthur L. Andrews, Honolulu delegate to the Pacific Women's Association, arrived in Hongkong yesterday with 15 other delegates.

Mrs Andrews is on her return journey to Honolulu after the 13-day conference held at Manila. It was the Association's seventh conference.

The purpose of the conference was to strengthen the bonds of peace and to promote better understanding among women of the Pacific. Delegations from 21 countries were present, including Australia, New Zealand and Hongkong.

Hongkong delegates were Mrs Marie Liang and Miss I. Wallace Turner.

The conference was held in the University of the Philippines which was converted into a hotel for the occasion.

Mrs Andrews is on a round tour before returning home, and will be staying four days in the Colony.

Next year the conference will be held in Japan and after that Hongkong will be able to look forward to having it here.

New Drive Begins Against Mau Mau

Nairobi, Feb. 22. British troops, Kenya police and African loyalists today began "Operation Fire" to crush the Mau Mau stronghold in the 17,000-foot high Mt. Kenya. Eight battalions including special trackers teams left today to begin a search through the dense forest and jungle, helped by aircraft and tribal police. It is expected to last several weeks.—France-Press.

Ship's Propeller Lost—In Snow?

London, Feb. 23. The British Police Force were searching yesterday for a ship's propeller. It disappeared while on the way to be fitted to the liner Empress of Britain.

Lord Mansfield, Joint Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, told the House of Lords yesterday: "The propeller was lost on the 10-400 propeller, which was buried deep under the snow, somewhere along the road in the County of Bedford, north of London."—France-Press.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I didn't know the Joneses were having trouble, but I wouldn't let that old gossip think she had a scoop on me!"

THE QUALITIES OF THE CASSONS

You will, perhaps, remember that I said it was a pity that Dame Sybil Thordike and Sir Lewis Casson would be heard only once in the Colony. Mr Harry Odell and the British Council must have thought so too, for last night we were given another performance, this time in the hall of the Grantham Training College.

Both the hall and the audience were somewhat smaller, but I think the audience was more discriminating, more aware of those finer points that constitute the art dramatic.

The programme selected by the Cassons was even wider in range than their first, and on this occasion we heard them perform in more selections chosen from the stage.

One thing about seeing them twice in one week was that I was able to concentrate upon those qualities which set such a high standard, but also for the programme itself.

Except for one item, the programme was entirely new, and selected to express their rare qualities to a delighted audience.

On this occasion, Robert Browning was included, and we heard Dame Sybil recite the Confessional and writing every mode of play and terror from its lines. Sir Lewis followed this with My Last Duchess, a portrait of cynical tragedy, and again Dame Sybil with Up in a Villa. I make special mention of these because they brought out the immense dramatic qualities of Browning, and made one wonder why he was unsuccessful as a playwright.

We had the martial lines of Henry V as well as those more intimate scenes of the Princess Katherine of France learning English, and Henry V conqueror of France, recited by Sir Lewis Odell.

We listened to Joan the Maid recant her confession; and in the next breath Mrs Shrew admonish the village maidens; and Burleigh read dangerous news to Elizabeth the Queen; then to hear the sad tones of Breton Hill.

THE REAL ANSWER

The question has been asked as to what qualities the good Cassons have. I should have written in such enthusiastic tones, I can answer this, or that quality, but the answer really is that they hold the whole of stagecraft in their grasp.

First the voice. Whole phrases flowed with superb ease and with controlled breathing. Then there was the fantastic range of Dame Sybil's voice from the high ringing tones of the minx to those deep tragic notes in the Trojan Women.

Incomparable! Listen! If you like to someone grinning round a microphone, but don't tell me it's art, for if it is you like, but don't call it theatre; a clever trick, that is all. But the Cassons' need none of this. The largest theatre, and they throw the voice to that last person sitting at the back of the gallery.

Every gesture, every whisper, every motion points to matters in the Arts of the British Theatre, training ground of the splendid company from Shakespeare to this present day.

And shall we ever forget that moment as Dame Sybil spoke those ancient words of comfort: "I will lift up mine eyes into the hills, from whence cometh my help?"

Doesn't that tell everything?—JOHN LUFF.

High Ranking Police Officers Testify In Murder Trial

Mr Percy Lowe, Divisional Superintendent of Shumshupo Police Station, and Mr Alexander F. Cochrane, Assistant Director of Criminal Investigation, Kowloon, gave testimony before Mr Justice J.R. Gregg at the Criminal Sessions this morning in the continuation of the trial of three youths charged with the murder of Police Constable Lui Shing.

The accused are Yam Kwang-pak, alias Ah Kwan, 20, Ho Kwong-tung, alias Ah Tang, 24, and Yam Pak, 20, alias Lan To-yee. They are alleged to have murdered Police Constable Lui Shing at Kowloon on December 8, last year. It is also alleged by the Crown that they were members of a society known as "14 K."

The first accused is represented by Mr Percy Chen, instructed by Messrs Wilkinsons and Grist, second accused by Mr Leo Wing-kei, instructed by Messrs Hastings and Co, and third accused by Mr Lawrence Leong, instructed by Messrs Johnson, Stokes and Master.

Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, and Mr J. C. McRobert, Crown Counsel, assisted by Det. Insp. C. J. Askew, are prosecuting.

Mr Lowe testified that he was present on the evening of December 8, last year, at Kowloon City Police Station when statements in answer to the charge of murder of PC Lui Shing were made by the first two accused and other prisoners.

He said the statement by the first accused was taken at 0.58 p.m. that day.

On the following day, he was present when a statement in answer to the charge of murder was taken from third accused.

CROSS-EXAMINED

Cross-examined by Mr Chen, Mr Lowe said he was not present when a second statement was taken from first accused. He said he was Superintendent of Shumshupo Division, and he went to Kowloon City Police Station to witness the taking of the statements—China Mail.

He added that Mr A. L. Gordon, Divisional Superintendent of Kowloon City Division, was then on duty at Kowloon City.

Mr Chen asked if it would be desirable for Mr Lowe to witness the taking of the statements.

Mr Lowe said he would be glad to do so.

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Chartered Bank Case: Leave Given For Fresh Action

The claim for £10,850 (HK\$173,500) brought by J. M. Shashoua (Hongkong) Ltd., of Gloucester Building, against the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China in the Supreme Court was withdrawn this morning, and Mr Justice C. W. Reece granted the plaintiffs liberty to bring a fresh action for the same cause of action.

The judge ordered the plaintiffs to pay the defendant Bank's costs of the action. The leave to start a fresh action was granted subject to the condition that these costs be taxed and paid before the issue of a fresh writ which should be issued within three months of the payment of these costs.

The plaintiffs claimed that the Bank made a full payment on a shipment of cotton from Persia before the goods arrived instead of withholding ten per cent, which the plaintiffs instructed them to do to protect themselves against the goods being under quality.

The plaintiffs alleged negligence in respect of payment by the defendant Bank of two bills of exchange in September drawn, respectively, under two letters of credit opened by the Bank at the request of the plaintiffs.

The sum claimed represented ten per cent of the two bills, plaintiffs alleging that the Bank paid the full value of the letters of credit to the sellers, M. K. Malek and Bros. of Teheran, without their consent and without retaining ten per cent as stipulated.

Alternatively, plaintiffs claimed damages for breach of the two contracts contained in two applications by the plaintiffs to the Bank for opening the two letters of credit.

Mr John Clifford, instructed by Mr K. L. Lo, represented the plaintiffs, while Mr H. L. Wright, instructed by Mr R. A. Wadson, represented the defendant Bank.

Mr Clifford applied this morning for the case to be adjourned for him to make an application for the taking of Mr. T. H. Bowman's evidence on commission or alternatively for leave to withdraw the case and to start a fresh one before another Judge. (Mr Justice Reece yesterday indicated that he would be going on leave on April 19.)

Yesterday Mr Clifford informed the Court that the principal witness for the plaintiffs, Mr Bowman, was in England and was not coming to Hongkong to testify but was willing to give evidence on commission.

Making his application this morning he said that he had made certain propositions to Mr d'Almeida all of which had been turned down, and he accused the defence of fully exploiting the position.

Mr Bowman was a very material witness without whose evidence there could be no proper hearing, said Mr Clifford, adding that if there were no proper hearing it would be a denial of justice.

He said that the defence, although pressed by the plaintiffs time and again, had refused to confirm the date of trial tentatively fixed on November 9 for February 21. If Mr Bowman had left his job and flown to Hongkong the plaintiffs would be in a difficult position if the trial could not start on the date fixed. The plaintiffs had no confirmation from the defendants about visas being granted to the defence witnesses from abroad.

NOT AT FAULT

Mr Clifford said that the plaintiffs were not at fault for the delay because they had every reason to believe that Mr Bowman was coming to Hongkong to give evidence as he originally assured them he would. He said that they could not apply for his evidence to be taken on commission and moreover that it was more desirable that he should appear before the Court personally.

One proposition he had submitted to Mr d'Almeida was that since the commission would take six months and the visas for the defence witnesses three months, it would not be delaying matters much more to ask for the case to be adjourned until Mr Justice Reece returned from leave, said Mr Clifford.

There would be no splitting of evidence and the question of inconvenience would be compensated by costs. The other proposition was that plaintiffs should wait until the trial began and then apply for an order for the case to be adjourned for a year until his Lordship returned from leave.

Mr d'Almeida, opposing the application, contended that according to the rules of procedure the Court had no jurisdiction to entertain an application for evidence on commission made after the trial had begun. He said that the Court should refuse such an application and order the trial to continue and certainly the Court even if disposed to help the plaintiffs, should not accede to such an extraordinary suggestion as to adjourn the case for a year until his Lordship returned from leave.

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RESERVE OF TALENT

The Government no doubt congratulates itself on having such a reserve of talent in its ranks; but probably in that, as in many other respects, the public may be of a different opinion, and feel considerable dismay at being put off with meta-astoria.

Under "Ecclesiastes" there is an increase of no less than £416.05 over 1953, which is extraordinary, seeing that during the whole period the City has been without a "rainy season" since 1947.

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From Our Files 100 Years Ago

It does not suit the Government to afford particulars of the Revenue and Expenditure of the colony, and the community, for whose "information" the Returns are said to be published, an expected to repose unlimited faith in the fidelity and discretion with which the finances are managed by a body of men whose interest in the colony is seen in their salaries, in consideration of which they conduct the government after the most approved model of an unreformed close borough.

It is, as we have often had occasion to remark, difficult to understand from the published returns whether the apparent increase and decrease on either side of the account be actual or deceptive; and this is more especially the case with the Expenditure. Take for example the first item in last return, namely the Governor's Establishment—1853, £4,460—1854, £2,953—Decrease £1,507.

The decrease is a mere illusion, and affords no proof of greater economy, but may be explained by Sir George Bonham's half salary for the year he was absent having been included in the payments for 1853. In 1854 we have had a Lieutenant-Governor, whose stated salary is £2,000, but who by some unexplained process has during the year cost the Colony £293 more.

A SOLUTION

Under "Establishments" we find a new appointment, that of Emigration Officer, conferred upon the Chief Magistrate, with a salary of £200, as a solution for his dissatisfaction in not receiving the Colonial Secretaryship, to which we have understood, another official was actually nominated; but which at length has been conferred upon Mr Mercer. An officer created on such grounds as a solution of a problem, can only be regarded as a job; and if the complaint made by shippers, be well founded, they would be pleased were Mr Hillier, himself, to regard it as a sinecure, and not as empowering him to insist on inapplicable regulations, which, by his Non-compliance in another column, we observe the Government, other members of which are still less qualified to give a practical opinion on the subject, are determined to enforce to the letter, and by doing so are likely to give us occasion to regret that a subject which cannot be here fully or at least appropriately, discussed.

The Emigration Agent, however, is probably not much overworked for his pay, any more than the Marriage Registrar, whose salary, though large, does not imply a great deal of labour.

DEPUTY'S DEBUT

The increase of £238 for the Auditor, and £226 for the Surveyor, are accounted for, perhaps wisely, by the decrease of £653 in the salaries of the other officers. There are no known precedents from the Judge and the Attorney General, but the present salary of the Auditor is £2,000, and the Surveyor's is £1,800. And here we may take occasion to remark that every officer in the Colonial Department, however small, can only be regarded as a job; and if the complaint made by shippers, be well founded, they would be pleased were Mr Hillier, himself, to regard it as a sinecure, and not as empowering him to insist on inapplicable regulations, which, by his Non-compliance in another column, we observe the Government, other members of which are still less qualified to give a practical opinion on the subject, are determined to enforce to the letter, and by doing so are likely to give us occasion to regret that a subject which cannot be here fully or at least appropriately, discussed.

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